

history may fit such an author, and of talents and credit had not
been sought in vain; I venture only to say beyond
that he has a right to such an estimate,
as a learned writer of talents.

THE

MONTHLY EPITOME,

FOR AUGUST, 1803.

LXXXIX. *The History of the Reign of George III, to the Termination of the late War. To which is prefixed, a View of the progressive Improvement of England in Prosperity and Strength to the Accession of his Majesty.* By ROBT. BISSET, LL.D.,
Author of the Life of Burke, &c.
6 vols. 8vo. about 500 pages each.
2l. 12s. 6d. Longman and Rees,

THIS copious and, on the whole, well written history has been compiled from some of the best sources extant, and, of course, may, on many subjects, be read with satisfaction. The preface will explain the object of the work.

"To enlarge on the magnitude of the subject on which I have ventured to write, would be unnecessary, and might be unwise. Every reader must know that the æra is eventful and interesting; an expatiation, therefore, on the greatness and importance of the theme, would only manifest the imprudence of the choice, should the execution prove inadequate. I am fully aware that many votaries of historical literature deem it more difficult to write a history of present times than of remote transactions; experience, however does not confirm the opinion, as some of the most authentic and impartial works have recorded events which passed during the lives of the authors. Citation of instances would be superfluous, both to classical and modern readers. The writer who is competent to the task of com-

posing a history may execute the work on a cotemporary subject as easily as on any other. The peculiar difficulty belonging to a performance of this kind is, to avoid prejudice and partiality; yet it is no more impracticable for an historian to deliver the truth respecting living characters than for a witness to deliver faithful testimony, according to the best of his knowledge. An ardent partisan of any of the great political leaders might find it impossible to render impartial justice in a narrative which includes their conduct; but a writer that is totally unconnected with the parties has no motive to distort truth for the sake of either the one or the other; I conceive, therefore, that no valid objection can lie against the choice of the theme, except such as may refer to the competence of the author. On this subject it would ill become me to speak; in a few words, however, I shall mention the reasons which determined me to engage in the present undertaking, hoping they may serve as an apology to those who may think that I have made an essay beyond my strength. Having devoted the chief part of my literary attention to biographical and historical studies, I conceived an idea many years ago of writing a history, choosing for my subject the transactions and events with which I was chiefly conversant, and by which I was most deeply interested and impressed. Britain, from the revolution to the present time, appeared to me to afford a scope for narration and reflection, equal to any

that had hitherto been treated in history; and I cherished a hope of being able, some time or other, to complete a narrative of that period.

" Commencing literary adventure with more moderate pursuits, progressive encouragement emboldened me to attempt the *Life of Burke*. The subject naturally called my attention to more recent transactions and events than those which I had originally proposed first to narrate; and with proud pleasure I contemplated the efforts of my country, displaying in arduous struggles the exhaustless abundance of British resources and the invincible force of the British character; still more strikingly manifested in the times in which I live than even those which had immediately or shortly preceded.

" The reception which that work met from the public, and from all the reviewers at the time, of whatever party or political sentiments, inspired me with hopes that I might be enabled to execute a work not uninteresting or unimportant to others, on a subject the examination of which was so pleasing and instructive to myself. Other gentlemen; I was aware, had handled the same period; but, without discussing the literary merits of either Messrs. Macfarlane or Belsham, I readily saw, and knew the world believed, that both these gentlemen were rather repeaters of party notions and reports than original composers of authentic and impartial history; the ground, therefore, did not appear to me to be pre-occupied.

" For materials, besides examining all the periodical and occasional narratives of the times, I carefully investigated state-papers, and many other written documents, with which I had been liberally furnished by private communication. For political, commercial, naval, and military, information, I applied to men who were most conversant in these subjects, and, fortunately, never applied in vain. By conversation with intelligent and experienced gentlemen, both in the land and sea service, I acquired as much knowledge of their respective professions as enabled me to comprehend the general tactics and discipline, their progressive improvements and actual state; and thus, in every particular action, to trace the cause and

operation whence the event resulted. The financial history and situation of the country I studied in the most approved works, and in official documents, for access to which I am indebted to the private friendship of a member of the legislature. Where my subject required legal investigation, in addition to reading, I had recourse to eminent counsellors, and to a gentleman, who is now about to leave country adorned by his genius and erudition, I am peculiarly indebted for many of the ideas that will be found in the parting view of lord Mansfield. In short, on every topic that required either narrative or discussion, I have consulted the most authentic evidence and the best-approv'd judges.

" In the disposition of my materials, I have adopted the following plan. Previous to the commencement of the history, there is an introduction, which traces the progressive improvement of England, in internal prosperity and strength, as well as in estimation and importance among foreign powers, from the earliest times to the beginning of the war 1756. A preliminary chapter contains the causes and outline of hostilities, with the internal transactions and state of the country, during the last years of the late king; in order that the reader, having before him, at the accession of his present majesty, the outset of national affairs, foreign and domestic, may more easily perceive progression and result. Both in the introduction and history, it has been my endeavour to place in a just and striking light the force of the British character, formed and invigorated by the British constitution; and to demonstrate, that Britain, either in peace or in war, prospers and conquers, because she excels in wisdom and virtue. This is the moral lesson which my narrative attempts to inculcate; and, if I do not succeed, the deficiency is in myself, and not in my subject. It is possible that my narrative may be charged with national partiality: I confess I love my country and hate her enemies; and if this be a crime, I must plead guilty. I trust, however, that, notwithstanding my warm affection for Britain and my admiration of her stupendous efforts, I shall be found, even in reciting the contests with her

foes, to have rigidly adhered to historical truth, and done justice to the exertions of her enemies: who, in disciplined valour, genius, and power, far surpassed any foes that were ever opposed to the heroes of ancient Greece or Rome.

" In the division of this history, I have endeavoured to end each volume at some important epoch. The first closes with the termination of his majesty's first parliament, in 1768, and brings Irish affairs to the same period: the second carries the American war to the capture of Burgoyne: the third contains the efforts of Britain under the pressure of difficulty, and her arduous struggles against the combined force of her revolted colonies, and her ancient friends joined with her ancient enemies in Europe; traces her through her dangers to the peace, and ends with the dissolution of that parliament in which a majority of the commons attempted to dictate to the king in the choice of a minister: the fourth commences the efficient administration of Mr. Pitt, and follows the history of peace and prosperity to the eve of an event which was destined to fill the world with wars unprecedented in the annals of nations: the fifth commences with the French revolution, and finishes at 1794, when the character of the French nation was manifested, in the junction of the highest national energy with the most deplorable national crime: the sixth conducts the narrative to its close, in the termination of the late war.

" It was my intention to have extended the work to the peace of Amiens; but the recent rupture, with the official exposition of its causes, having shewn that one of the parties regarded it merely as a temporary truce, the cessation of hostilities appeared to me to form a more proper epoch than the conclusion of a treaty which the conduct of our enemy has proved to have been regarded by him as no treaty.

" Such are the object, plan, and distribution, of this present history; and if its execution be received with equal favour as my former labours, it will answer the most sanguine expectations of the author." p. viii.

That the reader may judge of the manner of its execution, take the character of Fox respecting the coalition,

and the character of Pitt after his late resignation.

" A comprehensive biographer, who should view the whole conduct and character of Fox, estimate excellence and defect, and strike an impartial balance, after allowing grounds for censure, must unquestionably perceive that there remained an immense surplus for transcendent admiration. But perhaps there never was an eminent man whose actions and character, viewed in partial and detached lights, could lead an observer to grosser misconception of the whole. Both his private and public life were of a mixed nature. The most sublime genius, the most simplifying and profound wisdom, did not preclude the indulgence of propensities, and the recurrence of acts diametrically opposite to reason and sound judgment. Ardent benevolence and patriotism did not prevent the encouragement, by both precept and example, of practices and habits injurious to the individual and, according to the extent of their influence, prejudicial to the public welfare. Just and honourable himself, his amusements and relaxations promoted vices tending to render their votaries unjust and dis honourable. In every part of his conduct, Mr. Fox was extremely open; if there was ground of blame, it must be known, as no endeavours were used for concealment. His supereminent excellencies could be apprehended but very vaguely and indistinctly, unless by comparatively few; but his faults were obvious to the most vulgar examiners. As the multitude, of all ranks and denominations, were incompetent to form a judgment of such a man themselves, they took up their opinions upon the report and authority of others: these were favourable or unfavourable, according to the sentiments and wishes of their authors. Where his enemies were the teachers of the opinions, in partial views of his conduct, they found plausible grounds of censure and obloquy. Besides the foibles of his private life, his public conduct afforded ample materials to advocates who chose to assail his reputation. From the time that the American war, by the losses which it produced and the burdens which it imposed, brought home to the expe-

rience and feelings of the people, became unpopular, the most ardent and powerful promoter of peace was regarded as the patriot who was to extricate his country from impending ruin. His popularity became still higher, as he procured a vote for the discontinuance of the war, and expelled the obnoxious ministers from the councils of the king. Under the government of the whigs, the people expected the empire to recover its ancient splendour, and themselves their former comforts and prosperity. The reforming and improving acts of the Rockingham administration confirmed this opinion. When, on the appointment of lord Shelburne, Mr. Fox withdrew his abilities from the councils of his country, many began to be staggered in their conviction of his patriotism; but when the coalition took place, the gross and undistinguishing multitude was satisfied that a junction between two parties and two men formerly so hostile must be bad and mischievous in itself. Its able opponents saw that the mere junction was neither good nor ill, but that the justness of censure must depend on the objects and subsequent conduct of the confederacy; yet aware that this reasoning was too refined for the comprehension of the multitude, with great skill, dexterity, and effect, they re-echoed 'the monstrous inconsistency of the coalition'; and, when its members came into administration, impressed great numbers of the people with a belief, that a ministry so formed must be unprincipled and worthless, however able and powerful. The receipt-tax, drawing hourly on their pockets, though in so petty sums, teased and fretted their minds, already sore. The East India bill, in its objectionable parts, the infringement of charters, and the forcible interference in the administration of a mercantile company's affairs, was perfectly intelligible to the most common apprehensions, shocked the ideas of a trading people, and suggested probable cases which, by obvious analogies, could be brought home to their own feelings; whereas the benefit that might accrue to British India and its native inhabitants much less attracted their attention, affected their imaginations, or interested their passions. A plain farmer, manufacturer,

or tradesman, could easily conceive the hardship of having his affairs subjected to trustees not chosen by himself, when he knew or believed himself to be solvent, and competent to the administration of his own concerns; while the benefit that might accrue to the inhabitants of Hindostan were not likely to make a very deep impression on his mind. In Mr. Fox's East India bill, the real or probable evils, like the defects of his general character, were manifest to a common understanding; but its real or probable benefits, like the excellencies of his general character, required comprehensive views, penetrating sagacity, and great abilities, to estimate and appreciate. Mr. Fox himself, and his supporters, ardent in pursuing their great scheme, though they anticipated, and, at least, with uncommon ingenuity controverted in parliament, the principal objections that were urged, yet they did not sufficiently regard the impression made out of parliament by these objections until it was too late. Mr. Fox, in this, as in many other measures, attending to what was great and momentous, overlooked various particulars which, though apparently little, were really important. His enlightened mind, valuing the literature for which he himself and many of his supporters and conditors were so eminently distinguished, and aware of the importance of the press as a political engine, had secured the ablest contributors to periodical publications." vol. 3. page 474.

"I trust that the narrative, regarding neither panegyrists nor detractors, but viewing conduct, has not altogether failed in presenting to the reader a just picture of the late ministry; a short pausing view shall now therefore suffice. From the time of Cecil, except sir Robert Walpole, none was so long prime minister of England as Mr. Pitt, and, without excepting any statesman, none had to encounter such arduous and trying situations. To direct the counsels of a great nation in difficult circumstances, requires chiefly patriotic intention, wise deliberation, and energetic execution; all fortified by a magnanimity which will be deterred by no paltry or ignoble motives from beneficial pursuits, plans and conduct.

That William Pitt possesses transcendent talents, none of his most virulent opponents, who have any talents themselves, will venture to deny; but it is on the exercise of his powers, and the co-operation of his moral qualities, that the ministerial character of the statesman rests. To an understanding which unites extraordinary sagacity, force, and compass, to comprehend the situation of affairs in all their bearings and circumstances, to see what objects ought to be pursued, he unites that combination of invention and discernment which readily discover and estimate apposite means, with an unyielding firmness that will act according to its own judgment and choice: his mind is in a high degree endowed with self-possession: he is neither to be impelled to speak or to act in any other way than he thinks suitable to the occasion; and perhaps there never was a minister who, in all the contentions of debate and the irritation of invective, so completely retained the command of his own powers and passions: neither the poignancy of a Sheridan, nor the strength of a Fox, could move him from the spot on which he resolved to stand. The integrity of William Pitt the second, as of William Pitt the first, was unimpeached. After seventeen years, he retired from office with an annuity scarcely five thousand pounds; an infinitely less provision than his talents might have secured by the exercise of his original profession; but, to such a mind, money must be a very secondary object: a passion much more appropriate than avarice to superior minds is, ambition. Mr. Pitt, at a very early age, sought power, and acquired it by the fame of his personal qualities; how he employed it may be best seen from results. When he became minister, he found the country in a very exhausted state: he readily perceived that the extension of commerce, improvement of finance, and promotion of public credit, were objects of the most urgent and immediate concern; justly concluding that peace was much more favourable to trade and revenue than war, he set out as the votary of a pacific policy. During many years of his administration, commerce, finance, and credit, were extremely flourishing: his scheme for paying off the national debt was

very effectual during the continuance of peace, and diminished the burdens of the war. His principles of foreign policy were those which his ablest predecessors had adopted, that the interposition of Britain in the affairs of the continent is expedient, so far as it tends to preserve the balance of power, for the security of Britain and the independence of Europe: the application of this principle to Holland was by all approved: in the case of the imperial confederacy, the vigour and energy of Pitt repressed, and in a great measure dissolved, a combination that was extremely dangerous to neighbouring states. No part of his policy was more discriminately wise than his conduct in the first years of the French revolution; he carefully avoided not only interposition, but even the expression of an opinion concerning the new system and doctrines, while they did not disturb this country. Even when they became prevalent here, while he adopted the most effectual precautions for preventing their pernicious operation in Britain, he carefully forbore any allusion to their consequences in France: he and his coadjutors observed the strictest neutrality between the internal parties of France and the contending powers of France and of Germany. In the war, on a fair view of the evidence on both sides, there now remains little doubt that the French were the aggressors; but, on the broad question of expediency, the possibility and prudence of avoiding a war, there still exists a great diversity of opinion, which must influence the estimate of the administration from that time. On the supposition that war was unavoidable, its conduct becomes the test for appreciating Mr. Pitt's talents as a war minister; and here we must again refer to the results: where Britain acted in confederacy with other powers, she and they failed in most of the objects which they sought: going to war to defend Holland and to prevent the aggrandizement of France, we suffered Holland to become a province, and France to acquire a power unprecedented in the annals of modern Europe; but where Britain fought alone, and where the counsels of her ministers, as well as the efforts of her champions, could fully operate, she was uniformly victorious; if, there-

fore, war was necessary, as far as Mr Pitt's talents could operate, it was successful: his plans animating the spirit for invigorating the energy, and promoting the resources of the country, were unquestionably efficient. During his belligerent administration, Britain was instigated to efforts which she had never before exhibited. After a contest which reduced the other contending nations to be dependents on France, Britain alone preserved her power and importance. One of the most alarming evils with which Mr. Pitt had to contend was, intestine disaffection, arising from the contagion of revolutionary principles: the means which were employed to repress such agitators were, in Britain, completely successful, and sedition was restrained before it ripened into treason. In vigorously pursuing an object right within certain bounds, it is extremely difficult not to overstep the limits. The extravagant projects of the corresponding societies required vigilance and counteraction; but it appeared that both ministers and parliament misapprehended the case, in supposing such machinations to be treason by the English law: to prohibit the daily utterance of inflammatory lectures, was certainly necessary in the state of the popular mind; but the laws for imposing the restrictions probably outwent the professed purpose. The watchfulness of government respecting Ireland brought to a premature explosion the rebellion, that might have proved tremendous had it been allowed time to be fully charged: not satisfied with efficacious remedy to existing evil, Mr. Pitt extended his policy to preventives, and endeavoured by an union to identify the sentiments as well as the interest of the Irish and British. The union between Britain and Ireland, one of the most momentous measures of Mr. Pitt, even as to present effects, will, probably, in future ages be much more distinguished, when the consequences of British and Irish connection are experimentally ascertained, as are now the consequences of English and Scottish.

" Persons who deny the necessity or prudence of the war may probably little value the abilities which it has called forth, and if they give credit to Mr. Pitt for genius and energy, may deny him wisdom, and assert, that for

the last eight years, his great powers were employed in remedying evils which he might have before prevented: this, however, is a mere matter of opinion, that resolves itself into the original expediency of the war, combined with the opportunities of afterwards making peace. It is less the province of the historian to obtrude upon his readers his own judgment, than to furnish to them facts on which to ground theirs; without therefore presuming to solve so very contested a question, I cannot help declaring my thorough conviction, founded on an impartial and accurate view of his whole conduct, that Mr. Pitt, in advising the commencement of the war, and at various stages of its continuance, acted conscientiously, and according to the best of his judgment; and sought the benefit of his king and country, whose affairs he so long administered. Whether unbiased posterity shall regard the war of 1793 as a necessary or unnecessary measure, peace in 1796 and in 1800 as attainable or not attainable, they must account Mr. Pitt, in the whole series of his administration, a statesman of great ability and strength of mind, who rendered momentous services to his country; and must allow, that never was the force of the British character tried by such dangers or graced by more splendid achievements than under the administration of William Pitt.

" This celebrated statesman was supported by able and efficient colleagues: of these, the first, for practical talents, readiness of useful plan, removal of obstacles, and expeditious dispatch of important business, was Henry Dundas, supreme in devising and executing the most effectual schemes of national defence, and for the improvement of British India. For assiduity, research, information, firmness, and perseverance, lord Grenville was highly esteemed. Acuteness, ingenuity, and literary ability, with erudition and taste, constitute the principal features in the intellectual character of William Windham, while his prominent moral virtues are honour, justice, sincerity, and benevolence, though not without a tinge of enthusiasm; and probably this loyal and patriotic senator, like his prototype Burke, was fitter for acquiring

eminence by speculative genius, learning, and eloquence, than the arts of a practical statesman. A most respectable member of the late administration was, the earl Spencer, formerly known as a munificent patron and ardent votary of literature and the arts; but, by his recent conduct, destined to be transmitted to posterity, not only as proprietor of a most valuable collection of erudition, but, as the minister who supplied the means for those heroic naval efforts, of which adequate recital will in future ages be the brightest ornament that can adorn a British library; and when some descendant of the present Spencer, in an hereditary reservoir of learning, shall dwell on the splendid exploits which Britain performed in the last years of the eighteenth century, with proud pleasure he may say, "my ancestor presided in preparing the fleets with which a Jervis, a Duncan, and a Nelson, conquered." vol. 6. p. 402.

We also add the concluding paragraph,

"The treaty of Amiens opened new subjects of discussion, which, for the reasons mentioned in the preface, appear to me to belong more properly to a subsequent period, which shall embrace the history and progress of that pacification, the state and sentiments of the two countries and of other nations during the peace, the rise and progress of the rupture, with the events which may ensue until hostilities be brought to a permanent conclusion. The most important object which Britain ascertained at the termination of the late war was, her own security: for this valuable blessing, under Providence, she was indebted to her own extraordinary efforts during the whole of the contest, but especially since the rupture of the first negotiation at Paris. She had proved, even beyond her own exertions in former times, that she was superior to the whole naval world combined against her in war. Every attempt to disturb her rights, to invade her dominions, either directly or indirectly to impair the sources of her commercial prosperity and political greatness, have recoiled on the authors: never had her commerce been so flourishing or her power so resistless as during the most arduous war which her history has to record: threatened and ac-

tual rebellion only demonstrated paramount loyalty and patriotism: attempts on her finances displayed, beyond former conception, the extent of her resources, leaving their bounds far beyond calculation; resources exhausted, because flowing from minds which afford perennial supply: menaced invasion served only to shew the number and force of her voluntary defenders. Every means that fertile genius could devise, or gigantic power execute, was essayed against our country: if she could have been subdued by any human effort, in the late arduous contest she must have fallen; the stupendous exertions that were employed against Britain, but employed in vain, demonstrate her invincible. *Here rests our security—in the manifestation of resources not to be exhausted, a spirit not to be broken, and a force not to be subdued: our security is invulnerable while we continue what we have been and are true to ourselves.*" vol. 6. p. 442.

Dr. Bissett is the author of the Life of Burke, and, indeed, of several other publications.

LXXX. *A Tour throughout South Wales and Monmouthshire; comprehending a general Survey of the Picturesque Scenery, Remains of Antiquity, Historical Events, Peculiar Manners, and commercial Situations, of that interesting Portion of the British Empire. By J. T. BARBER, F. S. A.*

(Continued from page 338.)

"AMONG our female companions were two genteel young Welch women, of considerable personal attractions, whose vivacity and good-nature had essentially contributed to the entertainment of the day: one of these was peculiarly bewitching; her's was

"...the faultless form,
Shap'd by the hand of harmony; the
cheek
Where the live crimson, thro' the native
white
Soft-shooting, o'er the face diffuses
bloom

And ev'ry nameless grace; the parted lip,
Like the red rose-bud, moist with morn-
ing-dew,
Breathing delight; and, under-flowing
jet,
The neck slight-shaded, and the swelling
breast;
The look resistless, piercing to the soul.

" These damsels preferring the certainty of a wetting upon deck to the chance of suffocation in the cabin, we made it our business to defend them as much as possible from ' the pelting of the pitiless storm.' Our travelling coats were fashionably large, so that each of us was able completely to shelter one, without exposing ourselves; a bottle of brandy, too, that we had fortunately provided, helped to counteract the inclemency of the weather, and we were for some time thoroughly comfortable. The rain at length penetrating our coverings, obliged us to seek a fresh resource; but to discover one was no easy matter, for the cabin had not a chink unoccupied, and there was not a dry sail on board to make use of. In this predicament it fortunately occurred to one of the ladies, that before the hatchway was closed she observed sufficient room in the hold for three or four persons who were not very bulky to lie down: to this place we gained admittance; and, although the angles of chests and packages formed a very inappropriate couch for the tender limbs of our friends, yet the retreat proved highly gratifying; and, after a short time spent in pleasing conversation, we enjoyed a refreshing sleep. Unhallowed thoughts, be silent! voluptuous imaginations, conjure not up, from this pressure of circumstances, motives or actions that are unholy! It is true, the girls had charms that might warm an anchorite, and were filled with the glowing sensations of youthful passion; yet they were virtuous; nor had the tourists, although encountering temptation, a wish to endanger the possessors of qualities so lovely for a transitory enjoyment.

" When we issued from our burrow the next morning, the rain continued, but the wind had abated and become more favourable. The other passengers remained in the cabin, and nothing can be imagined more dis-

tressing than their situation. No less than ten women had squeezed themselves into the hole, where they lay all of a heap, like fish in a basket. The heat and confinement had rendered the sickness general: I shall forbear to describe the evidence of its effects; but briefly remark, that, overcome by pain and fatigue, they appeared all in a sound sleep, half released from their clothes, and with such an intermixtue of heads, bodies, and limbs, that it required some ingenuity to trace the relation of the several parts. The two old French-horn players were lying at the door, soaking in the rain, but also asleep. From such a scene we gladly withdrew, and in a few hours found ourselves at the entrance of Swansea-Bay, finely encircled with high varied hills: on our left, were the two insulated rocks called the Mumbles, at a small distance from the main land, where the whitened town of Ostermouth appeared issuing from the water, beneath a lofty dark hill. At the bottom of the bay, the superior extent of Swansea lined the shore, backed by an atmosphere of cloudy vapours, produced from the numerous furnaces in its neighbourhood. At length I trod on Cambrian ground, and paid my half-crown, with a willing engagement to forfeit a hundred times the sum, if ever I should be again caught on board of a Swansea hoy.

" Swansea is a tolerably neat town, although irregularly built. It has long been a winter-residence of the neighbouring gentry, and a favourite resort in summer for bathing; but its increasing opulence arises principally from the prosperity of its manufactures and commerce.

" In company with Major Jones, a worthy magistrate of the town, to whose polite attention I stand indebted for much local information, I obtained a complete survey of Swansea Castle (situated in the middle of the town), which, although much contracted from its former grand dimensions, is still of considerable extent. The principal feature of the building is, massive quadrangular tower, remarkable for a range of light circular arches, encircling the top, and supporting a parapet, which forms a connexion with turrets at each angle. This parapet affords a pleasing bird's-

eye-view of the town and surrounding country. The tenantable parts of the castle comprise the town-hall, a poor house, a jail, a new market-house, numerous store-cellars, a blacksmith's and other shops and habitations, a Roman Catholic chapel, and a pigeon-house. The Gothic structure has been so far metamorphosed in its application to these purposes, that it is almost impossible to trace the original plan of the building; but the large apartment used for Romish worship has been either the baronial hall or the chapel: I think the former.

" During my stay in Swansea, an intoxicated man fell asleep on the parapet of the castle; and, rolling off, fell to the ground at the depth of near eighty feet. The poor fellow was a servant in the castle: and, missing his room in winding up the turreted staircase, unconsciously extended his journey to the summit of the castle. Nothing broke his fall (unless the roof of a low shed reared against the wall, and which he went clearly through, may be considered as a favourable impediment), and yet, incredible as it may seem, the only effect produced on the man was, a slight broken head and a restoration of his faculties! He bound up his head himself, made the best of his way to a public-house, took a little more ale, and then went soberly to bed. I should scarcely have believed this miraculous escape, had I not seen the broken tiles and rafters through which he fell, and heard the attestations of numerous witnesses of the accident.

" Swansea Castle was built A. D. 1113, by Henry Beaumont, earl of Warwick, a Norman leader, who conquered Gowerland, a tract of country bounded by the Neath and Loughor rivers, from the Welch; but it was soon after besieged by Griffith ap Rhys ap Theodore, a native chief, and a great part of the out-buildings destroyed. It is now the property of the Duke of Beaufort, lord paramount of Gower.

" A large tract of country, northward of Swansea, is covered with coal, copper, and iron-works, the operations of which are much facilitated by a canal passing among them. The dismal gloom of the manufactures, hanging over the river Tawe, is pleas-

ingly contrasted by the whitened walls of their appendant villages, springing from the dark sides of the hills that rise above the river. Conspicuous above the other resorts of the manufacturers is Morristown, a neat newly-created village; and, on the summit of a steep hill, Morristown castle, a quadrangular building, which is the habitation of upwards of thirty families: these buildings owe their origin to Mr. Morris, a gentleman who, in partnership with Mr. Lockwood, conducts one of the leading works. The introduction of Major Jones obtained me a view of Messrs. Freeman's copper manufactory: we took care to be there at noon, when the furnaces are tapped, and all the interesting processes gone through. The effect in passing through these dismal buildings, contrasted by the vivid glare of the furnaces and the liquid fire of the pouring metal, is to a stranger very striking. I was much surprised at the quantity of condensed sulphureous vapour that yellowed the roof of the building. Sulphur often forms the greatest bulk of the ore, yet no means are employed to collect the vapour, which might easily be managed, and could not fail of turning to a source of profit: at the same time, it would save the health of the workmen, and spare the vegetation, which appears stunted for a considerable distance by the noxious effluvia.

" We left these sulphureous chambers to enjoy a purer air on the seashore, where another curiosity awaited us. As we were strolling on the sands, about a mile above the town, we remarked a group of figures, in birthday attire, gamboling in the water: not suspecting that they were women, we passed carelessly on; but how great was our surprise, on approaching them, to find that the fact did not admit of a doubt. We had not paused a minute, before they all came running toward us with a menacing tone and countenance, that would seem to order us away. Though we did not understand their British sentences, we obeyed, and very hastily too, on finding a volley of stones rattling about our ears. This hostile demonstration, we afterwards found, arose from a suspicion that we were going to remove their clothes, a piece

of waggety often practised by the visitors of Swansea, to enjoy their running *nudibres ovo*. The girls knew that we were not their countrymen, or we should have passed unconcerned; unless, indeed, acquaintances, who would have made their usual salutation, and perhaps joined in the party's amusement. In our subsequent rambles on the beach, these liberal exhibitions of Cambrian beauty afforded us many pleasing studies of unsophisticated nature:

' Graceful, cleanly, smooth, and round,
All in Venus' girdle bound.'

" From Swansea we made an excursion, across the sands, to Oster-mouth castle, about four miles distant, situated on an eminence near the coast. The principal walls of this ruin are little injured by time, and most of the apartments may be readily distinguished: the general figure is polygonal, and the ramparts are conspicuously lofty, but unflanked by towers, except at the entrance: a profusion of ivy overspreading the ruin rather conceals than adorns it. This building is supposed to have been erected by the Norman conqueror of Gowerland, and has almost ever since remained the property of that lordship.

" From some high hills behind Oster-mouth, an extensive view is obtained over the peninsula of Gower, and the two noble bays of Swansea and Caermarthen, which its projection divides: the general aspect of the peninsula is wild and dreary. Not far distant, near the little bay of Oxwich, are the ruins of Pennarth castle, a fortress built soon after the Beaumonts conquered Gowerland; and on the opposite side of the bay stands the more picturesque ruin of Penrice castle, so called after the Penrices, a Norman family that settled there in the reign of Edward the First. This castle is comprised in an extensive domain belonging to Mr. Talbot, which occupies a great part of the peninsula; and here Mr. Talbot has erected an elegant villa, with all the appendant beauties of wood and lawn, lake and promenade. But, unless with a view to improve the estate, one can scarcely imagine what motive could induce this gentleman to desert his former residence at Margam, possess-

ing all the allurements of favoured nature, and situated in the midst of an agreeable neighbourhood, to force exotic elegance upon a bleak unfrequented coast, and fix his abode far from the usual haunts of society.

" About three miles northward of Penrice, upon a mountain called Cum Bryn, near Llanridian, is a table-like monument, or cromlech, called Arthur's stone: it consists of a huge flat stone, supposed to weigh near twenty tons, supported upon six or seven others, about five feet in height: the smaller stones are placed in a circle. A few miles farther, near the mouth of the Loughor, is Webley Castle, which was described to me as a place of considerable antique strength, and as being still entire and partially inhabited. The difficulty of access to this castle, and its out-of-the-way situation, prevented our visiting it; similar reasons also prevented our seeing a curiosity at Worms-head-point, a bold promontory, jutting far into the sea, and divided from the main land at high water, by the sea's overflowing its low isthmus. Near the extremity of the point is a cleft in the ground, in which, if dust or sand be thrown, it will be returned back into the air; and a person applying his ear to the crevice will hear a deep noise, like the blowing of a large pair of bellows: this effect is reasonably attributed to the concussions of the waves of the sea in the cavernous hollows of the cliff. An old author, I think Giraldus Cambrensis, speaks of a similar phenomenon in Barry island, near the coast, between Cardiff and Cowbridge; but at present no such effect is produced at that place." p. 30.

LXXXI. *A new Dictionary of Ancient Geography, exhibiting the Modern, in addition to the Ancient, Names of Places. By CHARLES PYE. 7s. Longman and Rees.*

THIS work has a prodigious number of names, both ancient and modern, with appropriate explications: it appears indeed to have been compiled with great care and industry.

LXXXII. LIVES OF ILLUSTRIOS
SEAMEN, to whose Intrepidity and
good Conduct the English are indebted
for the Victories of their Fleets, the
Increase of their Dominions, the Ex-
tension of their Commerce, and the
Prestige on the Ocean; including
several hundred Naval Characters,
alphabetically arranged. To which is
prefixed, a brief History of the Rise
and Progress of the British Navy,
and other important particulars rela-
tive to the subject. sm. 8vo. 500
pages. 8s. Hurst.

FROM an irresistible impulse, we
feel it our duty to pronounce an
high eulogium on this production. It
contains a great variety of matter on a
most popular topic. As a specimen
of the merits of the contents, we se-
lect the following account of sir Sid-
ney Smith.

" Sir Wm. Sidney Smith, the el-
dest son of captain Smith, an officer
in the army, and who served at Min-
den, and afterwards enjoyed a situa-
tion in the royal household, was born
about the year 1764. He received the
first rudiments of his education at
Tunbridge school, and was afterwards
placed under the tuition of Mr. Mor-
gan, at Bath. In 1777, he com-
menced his maritime career. In 1780,
he was promoted to the rank of fifth
lieutenant, on board the Alcide, a
ship of seventy-four guns. In 1782,
he was made a commander, and, on
the 7th of May, 1783, a post-captain.
On his last elevation, he was com-
missioned to the Nemesis; but a peace
having taken place, the Nemesis was
dismantled; and a rupture seeming to
be approaching between Sweden and
Russia, he entered, in 1788, with
the permission of his own sovereign,
into the service of the former of these
nations. During the hostilities that
ensued in the Baltic, he distinguishted
himself greatly, particularly in the
battle of the gallies, and, in conse-
quence, received the honour of being
made a grand-cross of the royal mili-
tary Swedish order of the sword. Dur-
ing the period that elapsed between
the Swedish war and the French war,
sir Sidney served as a volunteer in the
marine of Turkey. Toward the con-
clusion of the siege of Toulon, he

came from Smyrna, for the purpose
of offering his services to lord Hood,
and acquired considerable reputation
by the bold and spirited manner in
which he burnt the arsenals and dock-
yards, together with several of the
vessels in the basin. In 1794, sir
Sidney was appointed to the Diamond,
of thirty-eight guns, in which ship he
performed many eminent services. On
the 4th of July, 1795, he made a
bold but ineffectual attempt, the par-
ticulars of which he has thus officially
related.

" "Diamond: at anchor off the island
of St. Marcou. July 5, 1795.

" In pursuance of the
orders of the lords commissioners of
the admiralty, I sailed from St. He-
len's on the evening of the 1st inst.,
and stretched across the channel to-
ward Cherbourg, his majesty's ships
Syren and Sybille, also four gun-boats,
in company. On looking into that
port, we found, that one of the three
frigates which had been seen there the
last time we were off was missing: the
master of a neutral vessel just come
out informed me she had sailed to the
eastward; and I accordingly proceed-
ed in quest of her. Going round cape
Barfleur, we saw two ships, one of
them having the appearance of the
frigate in question, at anchor under
the sand, and immediately made sail
toward them. We soon after saw a
convoy coming along shore within the
islands of St. Marcou. The wind dy-
ing away, and the ebb-tide making
against me, I was obliged to anchor,
and had the mortification to see the
enemy's vessels drift with the tide, un-
der the batteries of La Hogue, with-
out being able to approach them. At
four o'clock in the morning of yester-
day, the breeze springing up with the
first of the flood, I made the signal to
the squadron, weighed, and worked
up toward the enemy's ships, which
we observed warping closer in shore,
under the battery on La Hogue point.
As we approached, I made the sig-
nal for each ship to engage as she
came up with the enemy, and at nine
o'clock began the action in the Dia-
mond. The other frigates having
been sent in chase in different quarters
the day before, had not been able to
anchor so near in as we did, and were

consequently to leeward, as were two of the gun-boats. The *Fearless* and *Attack* were with me; and their commanders conducted themselves in a manner to merit my approbation, by drawing off the attention of the enemy's gun-boats, of which they had two also. The small vessels of the enemy ran into the pier before the town; the largest, a corvette, continued warping into shoal water: we followed, engaging her and the batteries for three quarters of an hour; when, finding that the enemy's ship had attained a situation where it was impossible to get fairly alongside of her, without grounding likewise, and the pilots being positive as to the necessity of hauling off from the shore, where the water had already begun to ebb, I acquiesced, under their representations, and wore ship. The *Syren* and *Sybille* were come up by this time; and the zeal and ability of their commanders would, I am persuaded, have carried them into action with some effect, if I had not annulled the signal to engage; which I did to prevent them getting disabled, as we were, when we had no longer a prospect of making ourselves masters of the enemy's ship. She had suffered in proportion, and we now see her lying on her broadside, with her yards and topmasts struck; but, I am sorry to say, so much sheltered by the reef which runs off from La Hogue point, that I cannot indulge a hope of her being destroyed. Injustice to my officers and ship's company, I must add, that their conduct was such as gave me satisfaction. I received the most able assistance from the first lieutenant, Mr. Pine, and Mr. Wilkie, the master, in working the ship, the precision of which every thing depended, circumstanced as we were with respect to the shoals and the enemy. The guns of the main-deck were well served, under the direction of lieutenants Pearson and Sandsbury, and the men were cool and collected. No officer was hurt; but, I am sorry to say, I have lost one of the best quartermasters in the ship, Thomas Gallen, killed; and two seamen wounded. The enemy fired high, or we should have suffered more materially from their red hot shot, the marks of which are visible in the rigging.

We have shifted our fore and main-top-masts, which, with two top-sail-yards, were shot through; and, having repaired our other more trifling damages, I shall proceed in the attainment of the objects of the cruise. Fishing-boats, with which we have had an intercourse, confirm all former accounts of distress for want of provisions, and the consequent discontent in this distracted country. I have the honour to be, &c.'

"In May 1796, he made an attack upon a French squadron, of which he gives the following account.

"Having received information that the armed vessels detached by the prince of Bouillon had chased a convoy, consisting of a corvette, three luggers, four brigs, and two sloops, into Herqui, I proceeded off that port, to reconnoitre their position, and sound the channel, which I found very narrow and intricate. I succeeded, however, in gaining a knowledge of these points sufficient to determine me to attack them in the Diamond without loss of time, and without waiting for the junction of any part of the squadron, lest the enemy should fortify themselves still farther on our appearance. Lieutenant M'Kinley, of the *Liberty* brig, and lieutenant Gosset, of the *Aristocrat* lugger, joined me off the cape, and, though not under my orders, very handsomely offered their services, which I accepted, as small vessels were essentially necessary in such an operation. The permanent fortifications for the defence of the bay are, two batteries on a high rocky promontory. We observed the enemy to be very busily employed in mounting a detached gun on a very commanding point of the entrance. At one o'clock yesterday afternoon, this gun opened upon us as we passed; the Diamond's fire, however, silenced it in eleven minutes. The others opened on us as we came round the point, and their commanding situation giving them a decided advantage over a ship in our position, I judged it necessary to adopt another mode of attack, and accordingly detached the marines and boarders to land behind the point and take the batteries in the rear. As the boats approached the beach, they met with

a warm reception and a temporary check from a body of troops drawn up to oppose their landing: the situation was critical, the ship being exposed to a most galling fire and intricate pilotage: with a considerable portion of her men thus detached, I pointed out to lieutenant Pine the apparent practicability of climbing the precipice in front of the batteries, which he readily received, and, with an alacrity and bravery of which I have had many proofs in the course of our service together, he undertook and executed this hazardous service, landed immediately under the guns, and rendered himself master of them before the column of troops could regain the heights. The fire from the ship was directed to cover our men in this operation: it checked the enemy in their advancement, and the re-embarkation was effected as soon as the guns were spiked, without the loss of a man, though we have to regret lieutenant Carter, of the marines, being dangerously wounded on this occasion. The enemy's guns, three twenty-four pounders, being silenced, and rendered useless for the time, we proceeded to attack the corvette and the other armed vessels, which had by this time opened their fire on us to cover the operation of landing themselves on shore. The Diamond had anchored as close to the corvette as her draught of water would allow: the Liberty brig was able to approach near; and on this occasion I cannot omit to mention the very gallant and judicious manner in which lieutenant M'Kinley, her commander, brought his vessel into action, profiting by her light draught of water to follow the corvette close. The enemy's fire soon slackened; and the crew being observed to be making for the shore, on the English colours being hoisted on the hill, I made the signal for the boats, manned and armed, to board, directing lieutenant Gossett, in the lugger, to cover them. This service was executed by the party from the shore, under the direction of lieutenant Pine, in a manner that does them infinite credit, and him every honour as a brave man and an able officer. The enemy's troops occupied the high projecting rocks all round the vessels, whence they kept up an incessant fire of musquetry, and the utmost that could be effected at the moment was, to set fire to the corvette (named L'Estoudie, of sixteen guns, twelve pounders, on the main-deck) and one of the merchant brigs; since, as the tide fell, the enemy pressed down on the sands, close to the vessels; lieutenant Pine therefore returned on board, having received a severe contusion on the breast from a musket ball. As the tide rose again, it became practicable to make a second attempt to burn the remaining vessels. Lieutenant Pearson was accordingly detached, for that purpose, with the boats; and, I am happy to add, his gallant exertions succeeded to the utmost of my hopes, notwithstanding the renewed and heavy fire of musquetry from the shore. This fire was returned with great spirit, and evident good effect; and I was much pleased with the conduct of lieutenant Gosset, in the hired lugger, and Mr. Knight, in the Diamond's launch, who covered the approach and retreat of the boats. The vessels were all burnt except an armed lugger, which kept up her fire to the last.'

" Being stationed off Havre-de-Grace, he attempted, on the 12th of April 1796, to bring off a French lugger privateer; but several gun-boats and other armed vessels attacked the lugger and the boats he commanded, and another lugger was warped out against that which he had taken: under these circumstances, he was obliged to surrender himself a prisoner of war. The French government thought proper to deviate, in respect to him, from that established system which directs the change of prisoners; sir Sidney was carried to Paris, and confined, during two years, in a prison, called the Temple.

" An intelligent emigrant, who visited sir Sidney after his return to England, has given us the following account of his adventures in Paris, as in the gallant captain's own words.

" ' When I was taken at sea, said the gallant commodore, I was accompanied by my secretary and M. de Tr—, a French gentleman, who had emigrated from his country, and who, it had been agreed, was to pass for my servant, in the hope of saving his life in that disguise. Not were our

expectations frustrated ; for John, as I called him, was lucky enough to escape all suspicion.

" On my arrival in France, I was treated at first with unexampled rigour, and was told that I ought to be tried under a military commission, and shot as a spy. The government, however, gave orders for my removal to Paris, where I was sent to the Abbaye, and, together with my two companions in misfortune, was kept a close prisoner.

" Meanwhile, the means of escape were the constant objects on which we employed our minds. The windows of our prison were toward the street ; and from this circumstance we derived a hope, sooner or later, to effect our object. We already contrived to carry on a tacit and regular correspondence, by means of signs, with some women, who could see us from their apartments, and who seemed to take the most lively interest in our fate. They proposed themselves to assist in facilitating my liberation ; an offer which I accepted with pleasure ; and it is my duty to confess, that, notwithstanding the enormous expences occasioned by their fruitless attempts, they have no less claim to my gratitude. Till the time of my departure, in which, however, they had no share, their whole employment was, endeavouring to serve me ; and they had the address, at all times, to deceive the vigilance of my keepers. On both sides, we used borrowed names, under which we corresponded, their's being taken from the ancient mythology ; so that I had now a direct communication with Thalia, Melpomene and Clio.

" At length I was removed to the Temple, where my three muses soon contrived means of intelligence, and every day offered me new schemes for effecting my escape. At first, I eagerly accepted them all, though reflection soon destroyed the hopes to which the love of liberty had given birth. I was resolved not to leave my secretary in prison, and still less poor John, whose safety was more dear to me than my own emancipation.

" In the Temple, John was allowed to enjoy a considerable degree of liberty. He was lightly dressed, as an English jockey, and knew how to assume the manners that correspond

with that character. Every one was fond of John, who drank and fraternized with the turnkeys, and made love to the keeper's daughter, who was persuaded he would marry her ; and the little English jockey was not supposed to have received a very brilliant education ; he had learnt, by means of study, sufficiently to mutilate his native tongue. John appeared very attentive and eager in my service, and always spoke to his master in a very respectful manner. I scolded him from time to time *with much gravity* ; and he played his part so well, that I frequently surprised myself forgetting the friend and seriously giving orders to the valet. At length, John's wife, madame de Tr—, a very interesting lady, arrived at Paris, and made the most uncommon exertions to liberate us from our captivity. She dared not come, however, to the Temple, for fear of discovery ; but from a neighbouring house she daily beheld her husband, who, as he walked to and fro, enjoyed alike in secret the pleasure of contemplating the friend of his bosom. Madame de Tr— now communicated a plan for delivering us from prison to a sensible and courageous young man of her acquaintance, who immediately acceded to it without hesitation. This Frenchman, who was sincerely attached to his country, said to madame de Tr—, I will serve Sidney³ Smith with pleasure, because I believe the English government intend to restore Louis XVIII to the throne ; but if the commodore is to fight against France, and not for the king of France, heaven forbid I should assist him !

" Ch. L'Oiseau (for that was the name our young friend assumed) was connected with the agents of the king, then confined in the Temple, and with whom he was always contriving means of escape : it was intended we should all get off together. M. La Vilheurnois being condemned only to a year's imprisonment, was resolved not to quit his present situation ; but his brother and Duverne de Presle were to follow our example. Had our scheme succeeded, the Duverne would, perhaps, have ceased to be an honest man ; for till then he had conducted himself as such : his condition must now be truly deplorable, for I do not

think him formed by nature for the commission of crimes.

" Every thing was now prepared for the execution of our project. The means proposed by Ch. L'Oiseau appeared practicable, and we resolved to adopt them. A hole twelve feet long was to be made in a cellar adjoining to the prison, and the apartments to which the cellar belonged were at our disposal. Mademoiselle D—, rejecting every prudential consideration, generously came to reside there for a week ; and, being young, the other lodgers attributed to her alone the frequent visits of Ch. L'Oiseau : thus every thing seemed to favour our wishes: no one in the house in question seemed to have any suspicions; and the amiable little child mademoiselle D— had with her, and who was only seven years old, was so far from betraying our secret, that she always beat a little drum and made a noise while the work was going on in the cellar.

" Meanwhile, L'Oiseau had continued his labours a considerable time, without any appearance of day-light, and he was apprehensive he had attempted the opening considerably too low ; it was necessary, therefore, that the wall should be sounded, and for this purpose, a mason was required. Madame de Tr— recommended one, and Ch. L'Oiseau undertook to bring him, and to detain him in the cellar till we had escaped, which was to take place that very day. The worthy mason perceived the object was to save some of the victims of misfortune, and came without hesitation : he only said, If I am arrested, take care of my poor children.

" But what a misfortune now frustrated all our hopes ! Though the wall was sounded with the greatest precaution, the last stone fell out, and rolled into the garden of the Temple : the sentinel perceived it ; the alarm was given ; the guard arrived ; and all was discovered ; fortunately, however, our friends had time to make their escape, and none of them were taken.

" They had, indeed, taken their measures with the greatest care ; and when the commissioners of the Bureau Central came to examine the cellar and apartment, they found only a few pieces of furniture, trunks filled

with logs of wood and hay, and the hats with tri-coloured cockades, provided for our flight, as those we wore were black.

" This first attempt, though extremely well conducted, having failed, I wrote,' continued sir Sidney, ' to madame de Tr—, both to console her and our young friend, who was miserable at having foundered just as he was going into port. We were so far, however, from suffering ourselves to be discouraged, that we still continued to form new schemes for our deliverance. The keeper perceived it, and I was frequently so open as to acknowledge the fact. Commodore, said he, your friends are desirous of liberating you, and they only discharge their duty ; I also am doing mine in watching you still more narrowly. Though this keeper was a man of unparalleled severity, yet he never departed from the rules of civility and politeness. He treated all the prisoners with kindness, and even piqued himself on his generosity. Various proposals were made to him, but he rejected them all, watched us the more closely, and preserved the profoundest silence. One day when I dined with him, he perceived that I fixed my attention on a window then partly open, and which looked upon the street. I saw his uneasiness, and it amused me ; however, to put an end to it, I said to him, laughing, I know what you are thinking of, but fear not : it is now three o'clock : I will make a truce with you till midnight ; and I give you my word of honour, that, till that time, even were the doors open, I would not escape : when that hour is past, my promise is at an end, and we are enemies again. Sir, replied he, your word is a safer bond than my bars and bolts ; till midnight, therefore, I am perfectly easy.

" When we rose from table, the keeper took me aside, and, speaking with warmth, said, Commodore, the Boulevard is not far : if you are inclined to take the air there, I will conduct you. My astonishment was extreme ; nor could I conceive how this man, who appeared so severe and so steady, should thus suddenly persuade himself to make me such a proposal. I accepted it, however, and in the evening we went out. From

that time forward, this confidence always continued. Whenever I was desirous to enjoy perfect liberty, I offered him a *suspension of arms* till a certain hour : this my generous enemy never refused ; but when the armistice was at an end, his vigilance was unbounded. Every post was examined, and if the government ordered that I should be kept close, the order was enforced with the greatest care. Thus I was again free to contrive and prepare for my escape, and he to treat me with the utmost rigour. This man had a very accurate idea of the obligations of honour. He often said to me, Were you even under sentence of death, I would permit you to go out on your parole, because I should be certain of your return : many very honest prisoners, and I myself among the rest, would not return in the like case ; but an officer, and especially an officer of distinction, holds his honour dearer than his life : I know it to be a fact, commodore, and, therefore, I should be less uneasy if you desired the gates to be always open.—My keeper was right. While I enjoyed my liberty, I endeavoured even to lose sight of the idea of my escape, and I should have been averse to employ for that object means that had occurred to my imagination during my hours of liberty. One day I received a letter containing matter of the highest importance, which I had the strongest desire to read ; but as its contents related to my intended deliverance, I asked to return to my room, and break off the truce. The keeper, however, refused, saying, with a laugh, that he wanted to take some sleep : accordingly, he lay down, and I postponed the perusal of my letter till the evening. Meanwhile, no opportunity of flight offered ; on the contrary, the directory ordered me to be treated with rigour. The keeper punctually obeyed all the orders he received ; and he who, the preceding evening, had granted me the greatest liberty, now doubled my guard, in order to exercise a more perfect vigilance. Among the prisoners, was a man condemned for certain political offences to ten years confinement, and whom all the other prisoners suspected of the detestable capacity of a spy upon his companions. Their suspicions, indeed, appeared to have some foun-

dation, and I felt the greatest anxiety about my friend John : I was, however, fortunate enough soon after to obtain his liberty. An exchange of prisoners being about to take place, I applied to have my servant included in the cartel ; and, though this request might easily have been refused, fortunately, no difficulty arose, and it was granted. When the day of his departure arrived, my kind and affectionate friend could scarcely be prevailed on to leave me ; till at length he yielded to my most earnest entreaties. We parted with tears in our eyes, which to me were the tears of pleasure, because my friend was leaving a situation of the greatest danger. The amiable jockey was regretted by every one : our turnkeys drank a good journey to him ; nor could the girl he had courted help weeping for his departure ; whilst her mother, who thought John a very good youth, hoped she should one day call him her son-in-law. I was soon informed of his arrival in London ; and this circumstance rendered my life less painful. I should have been happy to have also exchanged my secretary ; but as he had other dangers to encounter than those which were common to us both, he always rejected the idea, considering it as a violation of that friendship of which he has given me so many proofs. On the 4th of September (18th Fructidor), the rigour of my confinement was still further increased. The keeper, whose name was Lasne, was displaced : I was again kept close prisoner ; and, together with my liberty, lost the hopes of a peace, which I had thought approaching, and which this event must contribute to postpone. At this time, a proposal was made to me for my escape ; which I adopted, as my last resource. The plan was, to have forged orders drawn up for my removal to another prison, and thus to carry me off. A French gentleman, M. de Phelipeaux, a man of equal intrepidity and generosity, offered to execute this enterprize. The order then being accurately imitated, and, by means of a bribe, the real stamp of the minister's signature procured, nothing remained but to find men bold enough to put this plan into execution. Phelipeaux and Ch. L'Oiseau would have eagerly undertaken it ;

but both being known, and even notorious, at the Temple, it was absolutely necessary to employ others. Messrs. B—— and L——, therefore, both men of tried courage, accepted the office with pleasure and alacrity. With this order, then, they came to the Temple, M. B—— in the dress of an adjutant, and M. L—— as an officer. The keeper having perused the order and attentively examined the minister's signature, went into another room, leaving my two deliverers for some time in the cruellest uncertainty and suspense. At length he returned, accompanied by the register (or greffier) of the prison, and ordered me to be called. When the register informed me of the orders of the directory, I pretended to be very much concerned at it; but the adjutant assured me in the most serious manner, that the government were very far from intending to aggravate my misfortunes, and that I should be very comfortable at the place whither he was ordered to conduct me. I expressed my gratitude to all the servants employed about the prison, and, as you may imagine, was not long in packing up my clothes.

" " At my return, the register observed that at least six men must accompany me; and the adjutant, without being the least confounded, acquiesced in the justice of the remark, and gave orders for them to be called out; but, *on reflection*, and remembering, as it were, the laws of chivalry and of honour, he addressed me, saying, Commodore, you are an officer: I am an officer also: your pale will be enough; give me that, and I have no need of an escort. Sir, replied I, if that is sufficient, I swear upon the faith of an officer to accompany you wherever you choose to conduct me. Every one applauded this noble action, while I confess I had myself great difficulty to avoid smiling. The keeper now asked for a discharge, and the register gave the book to Mr. B——, who boldly signed it, with a proper flourish, L'oger, adjutant-general. Meanwhile, I employed the attention of the turnkeys, and loaded them with favours, to prevent them from having time to reflect, nor indeed did they

seem to have any other thought than their own advantage. The register and keeper accompanied us as far as the second court; and at length the last gate was opened, and we left them after a long interchange of ceremony and politeness.

" " We instantly entered a hackney-coach, and the adjutant ordered the coachman to drive to the —— of St. Germain. But the stupid fellow had not gone a hundred paces before he broke his wheel against a post, and hurt an unfortunate passenger; and this unlucky incident brought a crowd around us: we were very angry at the injury the poor fellow sustained. We quitted the coach, took our portmanteaus in our hands, and went off in an instant. Though the people observed us much, they did not say a word to us, only abusing the coachman; and when our driver demanded his fare, M. L——, through an inadvertence that might have caused us to be arrested, gave him a double louis d'or.

" " Having separated when we quitted the carriage, I arrived at the appointed rendezvous with only my secretary and M. de Phelipeaux, who had joined us near the prison; and though I was very desirous of waiting for my two friends, to thank and take my leave of them, M. de Phelipeaux observed, there was not a moment to be lost. I therefore postponed till another opportunity my expressions of gratitude to my deliverers, and we immediately set off for Rouen, where M. R—— had made every preparation for our reception.

" " At Rouen we were obliged to stay several days; and, as our passports were perfectly regular, we did not take much care to conceal ourselves, but in the evening we walked about the town, or took the air on the banks of the Seine. At length, every thing being ready for us to cross the channel, we quitted Rouen, and, without encountering any further dangers, I arrived in London, together with my secretary, and my friend M. de Phelipeaux, who could not prevail on himself to leave us." " p. 400.

(*To be concluded in our next.*)

**LXXXIII. THE Works of the Rt.
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THE letters of this celebrated lady which have been so long before the public are said to have been surreptitiously obtained, and made their appearance in a mutilated condition; but the present collection is pronounced entire and complete; listen to the Advertisement.

" As a preliminary observation, it may be necessary to assure the public, that no single production, either in prose or verse, already printed and attributed to lady Mary Wortley Montagu, had ever received the sanction of herself or her representatives. It is for that important reason, a respect due to the literary world, to inform them, that no letter, essay, or poem, will find a place in the present edition, the original manuscript of which is not at this time extant, in the possession of her grandson, the most noble the marquis of Bute.

" The high sense of obligation which the editor begs to express to that distinguished nobleman for so great a confidence as that which he has reposed in him, in the present instance, will continue to demand his latest gratitude; and the public will be no less sensible of lord Bute's liberality, in so complete a gratification of long-excited curiosity, by permitting an access to the stores of literary amusement, which have descended to him from one of the most accomplished of her sex in any age or country. It is not to discriminate lady Mary Wortley Montagu's epistolary writings with unmerited commendation to assert, that in them are combined the solid judgment of Rochefoucault, without his misanthropy, and the sentimental elegance of the marchioness de Sevigne, without her repetition and feebleness.

" J. DALLAWAY."

The letters, however, are of the same general nature and tendency as those already published; no extracts, therefore, may be deemed necessary;

but a few particulars of her shall be transcribed, contained in the conclusion of the biography. Mr. D. informs us, that lady Mary was born at Thoresby, Nottinghamshire, about the year 1690, married in 1712, and went to Turkey in August 1716: they returned to England in 1718, settled at Twickenham, was envied by Pope but a great favourite at court, and for many years took the lead in the fashionable and polite world: the remaining part of her life, and also her character, are thus delineated.

" Such, for many years, was the life of lady Mary Wortley in the world of fashion and of literature; still it afforded no incidents worthy of biographical notice, which materially distinguished it from the monotony of theirs who enjoy a full portion of rank and fame.

" In the year 1739, her health declined, and she took the resolution of passing the remainder of her days on the continent. Having obtained Mr. Wortley's consent, she left England in the month of July, and hastened to Venice, where she formed many connections with the noble inhabitants, and determined to establish herself in the north of Italy. Having been gratified by a short tour to Rome and Naples, she returned to Brescia, one of the palaces of which city she inhabited; and appears not only to have been reconciled to, but pleased with, the Italian customs. She spent some months at Avignon and Chambery. Her summer residence she fixed at Louverre, on the shores of the lake of Isco, in the Venetian territory, whither she had been first invited on account of the mineral waters, which she found greatly beneficial to her health. There she took possesision of a deserted palace, she planned her garden, applied herself to the business of a country life, and was happy in the superintendance of her vineyards and silk worms. Books, and those chiefly English, sent her by lady Bute, supplied the deficiency of society. Her letters from this retreat breathe a truly philosophic spirit, and evince, that the care of her daughter and her family was ever nearest to her heart. No one appears to have enjoyed her repose more sincerely from the occupations of the gay world. Her visits to Genoa and Padua were not unfre-

quent; but about the year 1758 she quitted her solitude and settled entirely at Venice, where she remained till the death of Mr. Wortley, in 1761. She then yielded to the solicitations of her daughter, the late countess of Bute, and, after an absence of two-and-twenty years, she began her journey to England, where she arrived in October. But her health had suffered much, and a gradual decline terminated in death, on the 21st of August, 1762, and in the seventy-third year of her age. In the cathedral at Litchfield, a cœnacloph is erected to her memory, with the following inscription.

"The monument consists of a mural marble, representing a female figure of beauty, weeping over the ashes of her preserver, supposed to be inclosed in the urn, inscribed with her cypher, M. W. M.

'Sacred to the memory of
The Right Honourable
Lady Mary Wortley Montagu,
who happily introduced from Turkey,

into this country,

the salutary art

of inoculating the small-pox.

Convinced of its efficacy,
she first tried it, with success,
on her own children,
and then recommended the practice of it

to her fellow-citizens:

Thus, by her example and advice,
we have softened the virulence
and escaped the danger of this malignant

Disease.

To perpetuate the memory of
such benevolence,
and to express her gratitude
for the benefit she herself received
from this alleviating art,
this monument is erected by

Henrietta Inge,

relict of Theodore William Inge, Esq.,
and daughter of Sir J. Wrottesley, Bt.,
in the year of our Lord MDCCCLXXXIX."

"Lady Mary Wortley Montagu appears now as an author more fully before the public. How her letters written from the Levant became known, has been already detailed, and of their reception, even 'in that questionable shape,' the opinion of Dr. Smollett, who had established, and then conducted, the Critical Review, bears an honourable testimony. * The publication of these letters will be an immortal monument to the me-

mory of lady M. W. M., and will shew, as long as the English language endures, the sprightliness of her wit, the solidity of her judgment, the elegance of her taste, and the excellence of her real character. These letters are so bewitchingly entertaining, that we defy the most phlegmatic man on earth to read one without going thro' with them, or, after finishing the third volume, not to wish there were twenty more of them.'

"The late lord Orford had been shewn, in manuscript, her letters to lady Mar only, and not those of a more grave and sententious cast to her daughter. He might, in candour, in that case have retracted his comparison of lady M. W. M. with the marchioness de Sevigné, and nor have so peremptorily given the palm of epistolary excellence to the foreigner. He yet allows, that the letters to lady Mar (those only he had seen) were not unequal in point of entertainment to others which had been then published. The vivacity with which they exhibit a sketch of court manners resembles the style so much admired in the Memoirs of the Count de Grammont, half a century before; and the trait she has given of that in which she was herself conspicuous becomes equally interesting to us, as it does

'Shews the very age and body of the time,
Its form and pressure.' *Hamlet.*

"Of her poetical talents, it may be observed, that they were usually commanded by particular occasions, and that when she had composed stanzas, as any incident suggested them, little care was taken afterwards; and she disdained the scrupulous labour by which Pope acquired a great degree of his peculiar praise; but it should be remembered, that the ore is equally sterling, although it may not receive the highest degree of polish of which it is capable. She attempted no poem of much regularity or extent. In the Town Eclogues, which is the longest, a few illegitimate rhymes and feeble expletives will not escape the keen eye of a critic. The epistle of Arthur Gray has true Ovidian tenderness; the ballads are elegant, and the limericks abound in poignant sarcasms and just reflections on the folly and vices of

those whom she thought to stigmatize. There is little doubt but that if lady Mary had applied herself wholly to poetry, a near approximation to the rank of her contemporary bards would have been adjudged to her by impartial posterity.

" The era in which she flourished has been designated by modern envy or liberality ' the Augustan in England,' and in the constellation of wit by which it was illuminated, and so honourably distinguished from earlier or successive ages, her acquirements and genius entitled her to a very eminent place. During her long life, her literary pretensions were suppressed by the jealousy of her contemporaries; and her indignant sense of the mean conduct of Pope and his phalanx, the self-constituted distributors of the fame and obloquy of that day, urged her to confine to her cabinet and a small circle of friends effusions of wisdom and fancy which otherwise had been received by society at large with equal instruction and delight.

" A comparison with her ladyship's predecessors, of her own sex and quality, will redound to her superiority. Lady Jane Grey read Plato in Greek, and the two daughters of the last Fitzalan, earl of Arundel, the duchess of Norfolk and lady Lumley, translated and published books from that language; but their's was the learning of the cloister, and not that of the world. Nearer her own time, the duchess of Newcastle composed folios of romances, but her imaginary personages are strangers to this lower sphere, and are disgusting by their pedantry and unnatural manners. Lady Mary Wortley Montagu applied her learning to improve her knowledge of the world. She read mankind as she had read her books, with sagacity and discrimination. The influence of a classical education over her mind was apparent in the purity of her style, rather than in the ambition of displaying her acquirements, whilst it enabled her to give grace of expression and novelty to maxims of morality or prudence which would have lost much of their usefulness had they been communicated in a less agreeable manner.

" Her letters present us with as faithful a portrait of her mind as sir Godfrey Kneller's pencil did of her

person. The delicacy of her style, in early youth, corresponded with the soft and interesting beauty which she possessed. In the perspicuity and sprightliness which charm and instruct us in the zenith of her days, we have an image of confirmed and commanding grace. As she advanced to a certain degree of longevity, the same mind, vigorous, and replete with the stores of experience, both in life and literature, maintains its original powers. The 'mellow hangings' have more of richness, and greater strength, if less of brilliancy; and the later writings of lady Mary Wortley Montagu bear that peculiar characteristic, while they offer the precepts of a female sage, which lose all their severity in the eloquence peculiar to her sex.

" Respecting her letters, as they are now given to the public, the editor thinks it necessary to add, that, having considered how extremely unsettled orthography was at the period when they were written, he has ventured, in certain instances, to accommodate that of lady M. W. Montagu to modern usage.

" Many idioms and a peculiar phrasology, to be found even in the Spectator, and other popular authors of her day, which the refinement of the present age might reject, are scrupulously retained, with an opinion that lady Mary's genuine thoughts are best cloathed in her own language; and that all attempts to improve it would tend to destroy the character of her style and discredit the authenticity of this publication.

J. D."

vol. i. p. 124.

As the letters are very entertaining, so the fac-similes of the hand-writing of celebrated individuals are gratifying to the curiosity.

LXXXIV. FLOWERS OF LITERATURE, for 1801 and 1802; or, Characteristic Sketches of human Nature and modern Manners. To which is added, a general View of Literature during that period. With Notes, historical, critical, and explanatory. By the REV. F. PREVOST and F. BLAGDON, ESQ. vol. 1. to be continued annually. 12mo. 450 pages. 4s. 6d. Crosby.

THIS large and copious selection has been made from a great variety of publications, and the introductory essay contains a pleasing review of the present state of literature amongst us. The No-Dedication shall be transcribed.

" NO DEDICATION."

" Not dedicated to any prince in Christendom, for fear it might be thought an idle piece of arrogance, and that, amidst the high-sounding odes of their flatterers, the modest song of a humble muse might not be heard, or be soon forgotten.—Not dedicated to any man of quality, for fear it might be thought too familiar, assuming, or presumptuous.—Not dedicated to any opulent upstart, for fear it might be scorned ; for, as wit is not the faithful and constant attendant of fortune, she, in revenge, affects to shun its approach and to despise it.—Not dedicated to an enemy, for fear it might be surmised, that we imitate the savage Indian, who, instigated by fear or terror, worships the devil.—Not dedicated to any one particular friend, for fear of offending and alienating another, by such a public token of partiality.

" Therefore, dedicated to nobody ; but if, for once, we may suppose Nobody to be Everybody, as everybody is often said to be nobody, then is this work dedicated to everybody. May everybody, then, deign to patronise and purchase it, as such a proceeding will prove an inexhaustible source of substantial satisfaction to the publishers, and of inexpressible pleasure to

" Everybody's"

" Most humble servants,

" THE EDITORS."

The editors then add, by way of postscript—

" When this volume was nearly ready for publication, an idea occurred, that it might be rendered more worthy the acceptance of the public, if we were to give a frontispiece, consisting of medallion portraits of the most eminent living authors. This plan we will endeavour to carry into execution ; and will, with the next publication, present a frontispiece for each volume, provided the present should meet with sufficient encou-

rage to warrant such an additional expence."

LXXXV. LETTERS from Mrs. Palmerstone to her Daughter, inculcating Morality by entertaining Narratives. By MRS. HUNTER, of Norwich. 3 vols. sm. 8vo. about 230 pages each. 15s. Longman and Rees.

THIS work, consisting of a series of little tales, designed for the improvement of the rising generation, is introduced by a dedication, an advertisement, and a preface, singular for its novelty : each of these, being short, shall be inserted.

" DEDICATION."

" To Elizabeth Hutchinson, the child of her affection, does the author particularly dedicate the following pages : which, for the most part, were originally written with the view of contributing to render her what she is—a good wife and a good mother—fervently wishing, that the work may be useful in forming the minds of her children, and that she may long live to reap the fruit of her maternal cares,

' And see her virtues, with reflected grace,
Bloom to fresh life, and charm another race.'

" RACHEL HUNTER."

" ADVERTISEMENT."

" The writer of this little work, now presented to an indulgent and generous public, wished to have it understood, that the author of ' Lætitia, or, the Castle without a Spectre,' and of ' the History of the Grubthorpe Family,' had intended ' Mrs. Palmerstone's Letters to her Daughter' for the introduction of her own name amongst those of the candidates for public notice and favour. This intention has been for several years frustrated, by unavoidable and, to her, unforeseen obstacles. She consequently hazarded the publication of the two above-mentioned novels, without what she conceived to be the support which their simplicity and object required. Their success has however gratified her; for it has con-

firmed her in the persuasion, that a good intention, like charity, will cover a multitude of faults. Yet it is her wish that the reader of the subjoined work should keep in view that the novels already published, or which may appear from her pen, are purposely written for young women who resemble her Eliza Palmerstone, and for the approving eye of mothers like Mrs. Palmerstone. To such she pledges her word, not only for their sakes but for her own interest, before a tribunal more solemn than any in this world, to adhere to the poet's honest and laudable deprecation :

"Curst be the verse, how well soe'er it flow,
That tends to make one worthy man
my foe;
Give virtue scandal, innocence a fear,
Or from the soft-eyed virgin steal a
tear!" p. vi.

"A DIALOGUE

BETWEEN

The Author and her Reader,

MR. NOT-AT-ALL,

By way of Preface to the Author's book.

"A. AUTHOR. As I presume to bring this book for your perusal, it is expected, without doubt, that I should make an apology.

"READER. Not at all. If your book be a good one, it needs no apology; and if it be a bad one, your apology cannot make it better. Not all the prohibitions which may be enforced will prevent my reading it in the first instance; nor all your supplications induce me to throw away my time upon it in the second.

"A. I see, sir, unexpected visits are not within the sphere of your indulgence: you look upon this as an intrusion.

"R. Not at all. My doors are open to every body: I welcome all my visitors, and turn my back on none but pretenders.

"A. Give me leave to call upon you another time—your honour . . . is . . . a little . . . out of humour at present.

"R. Not at all. I am in the humour of saying what I think: if you call this ill-humour, you will never find me in a good one.

"A. Well, well, I will drop my apology, and content myself with tell-

ing your honour how I, poor soul! who know nothing of authorship, and should shrink from the criticism of a schoolboy, came to be of the number of your suitors; for, unqualified as I am, you wonder, no doubt, at my motive, and are impatient to know the particulars.

"R. Not at all. I know your motive as well as you do yourself; and to enter into a long detail of the matter would only give you some trouble and myself no pleasure whatever.

"A. I intended entertaining your honour with some short instructive narratives of my composition; but, as I have already taken up too much of your time, you would be angry with me were I to detain you any longer. Would you not?

"R. Not at all. I love entertaining stories, especially short ones, as you say your's are; begin, therefore, as soon as you please. But walk in, and do not keep me any longer at the door: I am very subject to catch cold.

"A. Before I begin my narratives, I should tell your honour that they were intended for the service and instruction of youth; and, as much has been written on this subject, you may perhaps think it is exhausted.

"R. Not at all. If any one had the good fortune of introducing into a book the whole of what should be and has not been said on this subject, I would pronounce it, without hesitation, one of the best books in the world.

"A. Say you so? I am glad your honour thinks as I do; and, on the strength of this our agreement, I will venture to send this book of mine into the world. Should it fail of success, and be left to the mercy of a certain species of rats, they will soon demolish it, as they have very little to nibble at, besides the ill-fated productions of mistaken talents. I am, however, strongly tempted to give your honour a detail of those circumstances which first led me to my present design, and broke in upon habitual indolence and natural timidity. But perhaps I shall weary you?

"R. Not at all. I have, in common with my neighbours, some curiosity, and no objection to its gratification; begin therefore.

"A. Some months since I was gratified by the unexpected visit of a friend from whom time and distressing events had separated me for several years. But neither absence nor those circumstances which I feared had involved his fortune and happiness in the ruin of thousands could remove entirely from my mind the hope, that in his integrity, his talents, and his industry, he had found a refuge against misery. It had been the employment of his rational life to instruct youth in those lessons of wisdom and prudence which he undeviatingly exemplified in his own conduct; and with the most lively satisfaction I found, on our meeting, that those hopes which I had cherished, during my painful uncertainty respecting his actual condition, were realized. From the post of private preceptor, he was become, in this country, a public teacher in the various branches of polite and useful literature; and, with honour and increasing esteem, enjoyed in competence and ease the recompence of his assiduity in his professional duties, and important cares of instruction, of precept, and example, to the untutored and innocent. In our conversations on his favourite topic, education, he complained of a difficulty I was no ways prepared to expect. He said, he wanted books for his female pupils, and particularly for those between twelve and seventeen years of age. I instantly reminded him of the numberless and excellent works published for the express purposes of instruction to young people; and, with some asperity, I believe, and perhaps national pride, named several authors who had a distinguished claim to his selection and preference. He replied, 'he was well acquainted with the books which I had enumerated: he acknowledged their merit, and had availed himself of their usefulness; but,' added he, smiling, 'some are too serious, and others too childlike: some say too much, and others not enough. I want a delineation of the human heart, with a moral which will not disgrace a mature reason. I want a mirror of truth and of nature, in which girls may see themselves without danger to their native simplicity, and without checking too harshly their native curiosity and fancy.'—

I smiled in my turn; and drawing from my work-basket a parcel of Mrs. Palmerstone's Letters to her Daughter, which I had provided for the occasion, I placed them in his hands.—There, said I, read those letters: they are the production of an English mother, who, I suspect, found herself under the same difficulty of which you complain. Read them, and tell me frankly whether the design or the subjects answer your ideas. Betrayed perhaps by his ingenuous simplicity, ever ready to give importance to the feeblest attempt to favour and promote the cause of virtue, he decidedly approved the little work, and engaged my promise to prepare it for the press. We amused ourselves with the importance of the character I was about to assume, and the wreath of fame with which he engaged to decorate my brows himself at our next meeting. We parted; and in six short weeks a life at once useful, honourable, and virtuous, was terminated in a premature grave. For some time, all intercourse with Mrs. Palmerstone was suspended. Insensibly I recalled, with the painful regrets which obtruded on my mind and depressed my spirits, my friend's opinion of the work before me, and the purposes which he had judged it calculated to answer. A sort of interest, which I will not here define, now stimulated my industry; and I found a secret satisfaction in my progress, by thinking it contained somewhat of his honest and pure intentions. But I am afraid I have tired your honour with this long account of motives, in which you have so little concern.

"R. Not at all: by no means. I am not naturally ill-natured, although somewhat impatient. It is true, your book and your private sorrows have little to do with each other; but I have not that fastidiousness which turns from the tribute of esteem and lost comfort, because it is out of its place.

"A. Your kindness encourages me. The Letters of Mrs. Palmerstone are now finished, and I send them into the world friendless and unsupported, except indeed your honour.—But I will not be too bold. I shall be satisfied if the eye of virtue deigns to regard the writer as the humblest of her train. If one child

of unsophisticated nature approves the lessons she has inculcated, she will be recompensed." p. xiii.

LXXXVI. The political and confidential Correspondence of Lewis on the Sixteenth: with Observations on each Letter. By HELEN MARIA WILLIAMS. 3 vols. 8vo. about 280 pages each. M. 1s. Robinsons.

FROM this curious work we insert the preface, as not only explanatory of its contents, but as illustrative of the character of the late unfortunate French monarch.

"**PREFACE.**

" Amidst the struggles of contending parties and the fury of hostile passions to which great public events give birth, there is no task more difficult than to observe with calmness and appreciate with impartiality the actors in those memorable scenes. Were it possible to lay down any common principle to which we might bring back those heated opponents, to fix some sure basis on which we might build a structure of reasoning, to agree on some general axiom from which we might draw indisputable conclusions, the difficulties would be considerably softened, and hope might be entertained, that, by patient investigation and good faith, we might arrive at length, if not to perfect similarity of sentiment, at least to that tolerant state of mind which permits us to view, without rancour, opinions that do not accord with our own.

" Whether we have yet reached that happy period, I shall not pretend to determine; nor can we decide if the present phasis of the French revolution be that in which those who call themselves the friends of Lewis the Sixteenth act wisely in evoking the shade of this unfortunate prince. The motives which have led them to make this appeal to the public are consigned in the preface to the intended French edition of these letters. We cite the words of the editors themselves.

" Many respectable writers have attempted to reconcile the memory of this good king with the esteem of his contemporaries, which he never de-

served to have lost. Their works have been read with avidity, and the pages have been bathed with the tears of regret. But it never yet entered into the mind of any person to paint the unfortunate monarch by his most secret thoughts, by extracts from his manuscripts, by his analyses, by his public and private correspondence. This, however, is the surest way of appreciating him—to behold him, not in his court, amidst his courtiers, with that kind of borrowed soul which the habit of commanding gave him, but in the presence of his intimate friends, of nature, and of his own conscience. It is by this mode of trial that we discover the man without reproach, and that we sometimes feel disgust at the great man. The end which it was intended to promote by the publication of these letters was, to scatter a few flowers over the tomb of a prince, the friend of mankind, whose apotheosis will surely be one day made by future generations."

" The surest way of appreciating characters, as the editors have observed, is by viewing them stript of that borrowed kind of soul which the circumstances in which they are placed lead men to assume. How often, when we read ancient history, do we feel a restless desire to know something of the domestic situation, the undisguised feelings, of celebrated personages. We see them like distant stars, lighting up the darkness which covers remote times, and wish for a mental telescope, capable of piercing the gloom of ages, through which their beams pass before they reach us.

" Whatever opinions may be formed of the motives of the French editors for the publication of this correspondence, it seems doubtful if the end they had in view will be attained. We live in an age, it has been observed, when every thing is discussed; and the first impressions which we have received respecting any object are often effaced, when we have examined it more closely. At the opening of the French revolution, Lewis the Sixteenth was considered, by the friends of liberty, as an hostile power. In the progress of this revolution, he made repeated and solemn professions of his adherence to the principles it had established and the reforms which had taken place. He accepted the

title of Restorer of French Liberty, and bound himself by the most sacred obligations to maintain and execute the constitutional laws. In reading this correspondence, which, according to its intended editors, is to place him in the presence of his intimate friends, of nature, and his own conscience, we may be led to suspect either that we have hitherto mistaken the meaning of these terms, or that conscience is a more accommodating principle with the rulers of nations than with other men; and whatever disposition we may have to strew flowers over the tomb of the unfortunate, we may be allowed to doubt whether any generation, even the remotest, will raise Lewis the Sixteenth to the honours of an apotheosis.

" Nor let this opinion be deemed rash or severe. If time may be measured by the succession of ideas, we have lived centuries of the common flight of years since the reign of Lewis the Sixteenth: we may therefore be permitted to consider ourselves as a sort of posterity with respect to him, and be allowed to be capable of judging him with the calm impartiality which, in the ordinary course of human affairs, is the birthright of succeeding generations. But independently of this consideration, whatever may be the personal feelings or opinions of a writer, with respect to political characters or events, he, surely, when he presumes to seize the pen of history, cannot lose sight of the dignity of his occupation, or forget (to use the words of Johnson) 'that he is charged with a certain portion of truth.'

" When we first unroll the mighty canvas of the revolution, the most prominent figure is Lewis the Sixteenth. At its opening scene, when we behold him in possession of absolute power, and shrinking from parting with a small portion where so much was left, the generous mind naturally places itself on the side of the oppressed multitude, and considers that every weapon wrested from despotism was a trophy gained to justice; but when, in the progress of the drama, we contemplate him, who was once the master of a powerful empire, bending, a victim beneath the tempest of popular fury; when we reflect on the gloomy close of the tra-

gedy; when we follow him from his throne to a prison, and from the prison to a scaffold; when we witness his sufferings and his resignation, his meekness and his wrongs; when we compare his character and his destiny, and balance his faults and his punishment; we see him placed in a point of view in which every sympathy of our nature pleads in his behalf; and we lament that his country was not spared the offence of his death.

" In examining the records which treat more particularly of the history of Lewis the Sixteenth, we must guard against the slavish panegyrist, who views in him no error but that of relaxing the slightest rein of authority, and the intemperate demagogue, who, considering the kingly office as a crime, deems the punishment of the holder an indispensable expiation. With those extremes truth holds no association: from those political rhapsodies the impartial enquirer turns with disgust: he sees passion deforming every page, the calumniator usurping the pen of the historian, and finds the pleadings of an advocate, instead of the decisions of a judge.

" But if it may hitherto have been difficult to form a just estimate of the real character of Lewis the Sixteenth from the disfigured documents which have been laid before us, the intended editors of the present correspondence assert, that we have here the most sure and most indisputable means of arriving at truth. The evidence they present is the most infallible and persuasive: it is the confession of the monarch himself, the expression of his inmost sentiments, the transcription of his most secret thoughts, the unfoldings of his mind with kindred affections, the transfusion of his conscience into the bosom of friendship, in which reserve would have been folly, and prevarication without a motive.

" It must be admitted that this kind of evidence is the least liable to challenge from any quarter, when the only question to be decided is, the real opinion of the party, without any reference to the propriety or impropriety of holding such opinion: this is a separate question, of which every one will judge according to the opinions or prejudices he may have previously formed. The advocates of

the king, in the confidence of victory, exult at the universal suffrage they have obtained. ‘ This collection,’ say they, ‘ is a monument erected to the glory of Lewis the Sixteenth, and which must appear more worthy of eternal duration than those magnificent mausoleums raised with splendid extravagance, than those statues of marble and bronze, which time silently impairs, or which great catastrophes overturn and destroy.’ Whatever be the duration of this monument, some doubts, when we have examined it with attention, may remain, whether the consent of the present generation or posterity will ratify this fond prediction with respect to its glory.

“ It was the intention of the king’s friends to have published those papers in two volumes. The first contained simply his letters, and were destined ‘ a nous montrer Louis XVI homme privé,’ to present the private character of the king. The second volume contained all that could pourtray him ‘ comme homme publique,’ as a public character; and consisted of his discourses, memorials, observations, writings, the analysis of a few of his works; ‘ all which objects, united, were to present us the last king of France, as a prince really enlightened, made to govern men in the solitude of the cabinet, fitted to become the counsellor of a king, worthy of executing, capable of judging men, and transmitting his judgments to posterity.’ This work was supposed by the editors to offer a ‘ full justification to men who were prejudiced, to awaken in generous minds grateful recollections, to excite remorse in the hearts of the king’s persecutors, to give useful instructions to statesmen, and teach crowned heads that it is not sufficient to possess the virtues of Trajan and Antoninus; that the courage of heroes and the policy of great kings are equally necessary, joined to the wisdom of a Sully and the firmness of a Richelieu.

“ The purposes of the intended French editors have been religiously observed with respect to the king’s letters, and also with respect to such of his other papers as have never yet appeared; but it seemed to me unnecessary to swell these volumes with the mass of papers that have been al-

ready published, and which are to be found in the journals of the times, and in most of the memoirs or annals of the French revolution. The chief merit which these papers possess in the eyes of the editors is, that they were written by Lewis the Sixteenth; and, as such, contain the faithful expression of his sentiments. A very few of those papers, which were but little known, I have preserved; but the insertion of the rest appeared to me unnecessary, for the reasons already mentioned. The titles of the papers which are omitted will be mentioned in the table of contents.

“ The materials for this monument to the glory of Lewis the Sixteenth have been for some time prepared. The French editors state that they have it in their power to enlarge this collection, but that a choice was necessary; we are, therefore, in possession of those which are most favourable to the cause which the friends of the late king are anxious to support, deeming the evidence sufficient to gain every suffrage in its favour.

“ It is unnecessary to mention the reasons which produced the delay of their publication, and still less the means by which these manuscript volumes fell into my hands. The only important point to be ascertained was that of their authenticity. The French editor, in the note which precedes his preface, states that the originals are deposited in the hands of a personage ‘ who will think it a pleasure and a duty to communicate them to such as are curious or incredulous.’ This statement is true. But, independent of this external proof, which is conclusive to those who are acquainted with the hand-writing of the king, such measures have been taken, as appeared to me fully satisfactory, to arrive at the greatest supplementary proof, by consulting such persons as were most likely to be informed on the subject. The proofs which I have obtained from men who now fill eminent offices under the republic, and from others who exercised the highest functions, under Lewis the Sixteenth, and who were consequently instructed both as to the spirit and the letter, leave no doubt whatever with respect to the authenticity of those papers. While they present the king, alternately, as a private and public man,

by his correspondence with individuals and his discourses to the national representation and to sections of the people, it appears singular that no suspicions entered the minds of the French editors, that the public, who were called only to admire, would sometimes pause to compare and to reason. The editors, it is true, in their preface, hazard certain animadversions which wear the air of impartiality, and to which they would limit those of the readers. ‘We dare, at present,’ they observe, ‘publish, without fear, in books, what is already in every heart; and declare, in the name of future generations, that Lewis the Sixteenth, on the throne of the Bourbons, had no other reproach to make himself in the difficult art of governing than that irresolution which neutralizes every thing, that want of self-confidence which renders the monarch null, and that weakness which destroys.’

“ These are, no doubt, blemishes in the princely character; and if nothing further had been intended in this justification of Lewis the Sixteenth than the display of his private virtues, respect for his misfortunes would have left his faults unnoticed. But to defend the memory of Lewis the Sixteenth appears less the aim of his friends, than to calumniate the memory of those who have rendered themselves illustrious by rescuing their country from the ignoble servitude under which it was oppressed. This generous effort is stigmatized, in the prefatory address, as a ‘series of useless crimes, producing only useless disasters.’ The revolution, by changing all the elements of social order, is stated to have ‘caused the most enlightened nation of Europe to make a retrograde step towards barbarism,’ and, which is still more disastrous, ‘to have rendered indocile to the yoke the people whom the king’s birth had condemned him to govern.’

“ The defence of Lewis the Sixteenth is therefore no longer the point in contest, or at least becomes only a point of secondary consideration. His friends have shifted the ground on which they might have remained secure, and, by enlarging their means of defence, have left themselves and the object of their idolatry open to attack. It is no longer the king they

mean to defend, it is the revolution they are earnest to criminate. Let them not be displeased, therefore, if, in the observations which have suggested themselves on reading these letters, they sometimes discover an attempt to defend that barbarism towards which the most enlightened country of Europe has made a retrograde step.

“ And what period in the annals of mankind more calculated to awaken solemn, wrapt, attention, to seize every faculty of the soul, to call forth every feeling excited by the sublime and the terrible, than the epocha of that revolution, which, in its effects, will change the condition, and almost the destinies, of man? How long will posterity pause on the solemn page which marks its mighty records! In reading history, we pass rapidly over the common flight of years and ages, like the traveller, who diligently pursues his way through a country which presents only ordinary objects; but when this astonishing era unfolds itself to the intellectual view, the reader will feel a sensation similar to that of the same traveller, when, suddenly bursting on his sight, he beholds scenes of overwhelming majesty, and finds himself surrounded by images of nature, the beautiful, the sublime, the terrific, the stupendous, which fill his mind with astonishment, or swell his bosom with enthusiastic emotion.

“ Considering the French revolution as the most important event of modern history, every thing that tends to throw light on that momentous epocha has some portion of interest; and it is with this persuasion that I presume to offer to the public the observations that accompany the subsequent letters. If I have not concealed my admiration of the great and exalted principles in favour of the human race which the revolution was destined to establish, I hope also, that in commenting on the character and conduct of Lewis the Sixteenth, I shall not be accused of insensibility or injustice, while I have sought nothing but truth. Some of the observations subjoined, trivial perhaps in themselves, may derive value from their connexion with the mighty event of the revolution, in the same manner as an obscure individual may be remem-

bered, who carves his name upon an immortal monument which mocks the destruction of time." p. xxv.

As a specimen of the correspondence, take letter 27, with Miss Williams's remarks.

" TO M. DE MALESHERBES.

" Feb. 16, 1790.

" I stand in need, my dear Malesherbes, of being enlightened by you, in order to determine on the sanction of several decrees of which your profound knowledge in legislation renders you so adequate a judge. I have sufficient reliance on the fidelity of your attachment to hope, that you will fix the resolution I ought to take in these matters.

" You, my dear Malesherbes, have been long the witness of the purity of intention which I have never ceased to manifest for the happiness of the French. To you I still address myself, to fortify me in the same principles. Adieu, my dear Malesherbes! you know all the sincerity of my sentiments for you.

" LEWIS.."

" *Observations on the 27th Letter.*

" However great may have been the habitual weakness and irresolution of the king, sufficient evidences of which appear in the course of this correspondence, it must be admitted that his life hitherto had been a continued struggle against this fatal propensity. Malesherbes appears to have been the rock against which he leaned in times of perplexity or danger; the asylum to which he fled from the turbulence of faction, the tumult of party, and where he might fix his wavering resolutions in security and repose. Of the motives which prompted the counsels of other men he might be pardoned for being suspicious: a thousand discordant interests, he knew, swayed the determinations of those who surrounded him; nor can we ever hope to do justice to the personal good intentions of this prince, while we remain ignorant of all the evil suggestions which he struggled to resist.

" The king, at the time of writing this letter, was in the zenith of his popularity. Not only the metropolis, but the whole of France, was at that moment in the delirium of joy.

The decree of the national assembly which gave Lewis the Sixteenth the honourable title of Restorer of French Liberty was confirmed by acclamation throughout the whole nation. The heart of every friend to the well-being of his country dilated at the prospect of happiness which opened before his view. This was the golden age of the revolution; and when mention is made of its most glorious epocha, it is on these days of promise that the mind reposes with pure and unembittered delight.

" When the enemies of the late changes found that the attempt was fruitless to excite any section of the people against measures which the people was most interested in supporting, when they saw that the higher orders of the state were resolved to consummate the sacrifices they had begun, and that, instead of returning back on the abuses which had been reformed, the disposition to make further researches was not dissembled, they were compelled to retreat, and intrench themselves behind the royal authority, which was now the only rampart they could hope to maintain against the overwhelming progress of the revolution.

" The protection afforded to these discordant spirits, and sometimes too favourable a leaning towards their counter-revolutionary designs, had contributed to bring on the great crisis of the fourteenth of July, and the events of the sixth of October, which menaced the existence of the royal authority itself. The king, perceiving the danger of yielding further support to such dangerous inmates, and finding that the counsels which he gave, or the silence which he observed, were construed by the nation into a full approbation of their projects, or rather into a co-operation in their measures, wisely resolved to come to a fair and open explanation with the country, to dissipate the apprehensions and misgivings of one party and crush the sinister expectations and lurking hopes of the other.

" With this view, the king, accompanied by M. Necker, repaired to the hall of the national assembly, on the fourth of February. The speech which he made on this occasion forms a remarkable epocha in the history of the revolution, and has been always

alleged as an uncontested proof of the sincerity of his attachment to the changes which had taken place.

" 'I confess,' says the king, after a few slight observations on the disorders which prevailed, and which remained yet without remedy, 'that I had hoped to have led you by an easier and more tranquil route to the end which you proposed at the time I formed the plan of assembling and uniting you together; but my happiness and my glory are not the less intimately connected with the success of your labours; and, by an active vigilance on my part, I have preserved them from that fatal influence to which they might have been subject from the unhappy circumstances in which you were placed.' After stating a few of those circumstances, the king continues: 'I think that the time is now come, when it is necessary for the interest of the state, that I should associate myself, in a more open and decided manner, to the execution and success of all that you have done for the advantage of France. I cannot seize a more convenient opportunity than that in which you present to me, for my acceptance, decrees destined to establish in the kingdom a new organization, and which must necessarily have so important an effect on the happiness of my subjects and the prosperity of this empire.'

" After recapitulating the various advantages of this new organization, the division of the kingdom into departments, which Mr. Burke considers in the ludicrous light of a great chequer-board, and on which, according to the king, depended the salvation of France, he adds, 'time will reform what may remain defective in the collection of laws which have been the work of this assembly; but every enterprize which may tend to shake the principles of the constitution, to overthrow or weaken its happy influence, would tend only to introduce among us the dreadful evils of discord. Let it then be every where known that the king and the representatives of the nation are united in the same interest and the same desire, in order that this opinion and this firm belief may spread throughout the provinces the spirit of peace and of good-will.' After enumerating the

advantages which the revolution had yet left to the nobility and clergy, and the losses they had sustained, after expressing his belief that the whole body of Frenchmen would one day acknowledge the benefit of the entire suppression of the different orders of the state, the king added those words: 'I also should have many losses to enumerate, if, amidst the great interests of the state, I paused at personal calculations; but I find a sufficient compensation, a compensation the most ample, in the increase of the happiness of the nation; and it is in the fulness of my heart that I express this sentiment.'

" 'I will defend them: I will maintain constitutional liberty, the principles of which have been consecrated by the general voice, as well as by my own. I will do more; and in concert with the queen, who shares in all my sentiments, I will begin early to prepare the mind and heart of my son for the new order of things which circumstances have introduced. I will habituate him, from his tender childhood, to be happy in the happiness of the French, and to acknowledge always, in spite of the language of flatterers, that a wise constitution will preserve him from the dangers of inexperience, and that national liberty adds a new value to the sentiments of love and fidelity, of which the nation, for so many ages past, has given its king such convincing evidence.'

" It was in this disposition of mind, becoming the chief magistrate of a free and powerful nation, that the king addresses this letter to M. de Malesherbes. Certain writers on the revolution, who claim the attention of a certain class of readers, less from the fidelity of their narrations or the brilliancy of their elocution than the intemperance of their zeal for what they call the memory of the monarch, have attempted to prove that this was a royal stratagem, of which the exercise was legitimated by the perilous situation in which the king was placed. Of the estimation in which those advocates of royal integrity (some of whom call themselves statesmen and ministers) ought to be held, we may form a judgment from the display of the king's real sentiments, not indeed in his public discourses, which are points in contest, but in his private

Letters, where dissimulation would have been absurdity. ‘For a long time, my dear Malesherbes,’ says the king in this letter, ‘you have been a witness of the pure intentions I have never ceased to manifest for the happiness of the French. To you I still address myself, to fortify me in the same principles.’ It is surely much more honourable to the king to believe that he was sincere when he thus unbosomed himself to friendship, than to pretend, with his panegyrist, that he always means the contrary of what he so well expressed.” vol. 2. p. 19.

We add another, from the first volume, relative to the immortal Lavoisier.

“ TO M[•] DE LAVOISIER.

“ March 15, 1789.

“ Your last experiment, sir, still excites my admiration: this discovery proves that you have enlarged the sphere of human knowledge. Your experiments on inflammable gaz shew how much you are occupied by that admirable science, which every day makes new progress.

“ The queen, and some persons to whom I wish your experiment to be shewn, will meet in my cabinet tomorrow, at seven in the evening; and you will give me pleasure by bringing me the treatise on inflammable gaz.

“ You know, sir, how much you possess my esteem.

“ LEWIS.”

“ *Observations on the 18th Letter.*

“ The experiments which this celebrated philosopher is here invited to repeat before the king and his family form the basis of the French system of chemistry; but although they met with the royal approbation, and since with the adherence of almost the whole of the chemical world, this system yet wants the sanction of that illustrious experimentalist who first laid the foundation on which this aerial superstructure is reared.

“ But, leaving the fate of these gazes to the impartial investigation of the scientific world, who can help deplored that of M. Lavoisier, and hearing a groan of execration against his hideous murderers? He is invited, in this letter by the king, to repeat his experiments before the queen and persons of the court; four years after-

wards, he requested from his executioners the respite of a fortnight, to wait the result of a series of important experiments he had begun; but his assassins did not understand his appeal: their only science of government was confiscation; their only experiment the scaffold.” vol. 1. p. 188.

LXXXVII. *The Stranger in France; or, a Tour from Devonshire to Paris. Illustrated by Engravings in Aqua Tincta of Sketches taken on the spot.*
By JOHN CARR, ESQ. 4*to*. 260 pages. 1*l.* 1*s.* Johnson.

THIS pleasing and well written tour is dedicated to Mr. Hayley the poet, and consists of twenty-one letters, with general remarks by way of conclusion. The nineteenth chapter will be a fair specimen, throwing some light on the artful genius of Bonaparte.

“ I had long anticipated the delight which I expected to derive from the interesting public lecture of the abbé Sicard, and the examination of his pupils. This amiable and enlightened man presides over an institution which endears his name to humanity, and confers unfading honour upon the nation which cherishes it by its protection and munificence: my reader will immediately conclude that I allude to the College of the Deaf and Dumb. By the genius and perseverance of the late abbé Charles Michael de l’Epée and his present amiable successor, a race of fellow-beings, denied by a privation of hearing of the powers of utterance, insulated in the midst of multitudes bearing their own image, and cut off from the participation (within sight) of all the endearing intercourses of social life, are restored, as it were, to the blessings of complete existence. The glorious labours of these philanthropists, in no very distant ages, would have conferred upon them the reputation and honours of beings invested with superhuman influence. By making those faculties which are bestowed auxiliary to those which are denied, the deaf are taught to hear and the dumb to speak. A silent representa-

tive language, in which the eye officiates for the ear, and communicates the charms of science and the delights of common intercourse to the mind, with the velocity, facility, and certainty, of sound, has been presented to these imperfect children of nature. The plan of the abbé, I believe, is before the world. It cannot be expected, in a fugitive sketch like the present, to attempt an elaborate detail of it: some little idea of its rudiments may, perhaps, be imparted by a plain description of what passed on the examination-day, when I had the happiness of being present.

" On the morning of the exhibition, the streets leading to the college were lined with carriages, for humanity has here made a convert of fashion, and directed her wavering mind to objects from which she cannot retire without ample and consoling gratification. Upon the lawn, in front of the college, were groups of the pupils, enjoying those sports and exercises which are followed by other children to whom Providence has been more bountiful. Some of their recreations required calculation, and I observed that their intercourse with each other appeared to be easy, swift, and intelligible. They made some convulsive movements with their mouths, in the course of their communication, which, at first, had rather an unpleasant effect. In the cloister I addressed myself to a gentle looking youth, who did not appear to belong to the college, and requested him to shew me the way to the theatre, in which the lecture was to be delivered. I found he took no notice of me. One of the assistants of the abbé, who was standing near me, informed me, he was deaf and dumb; and made two or three signs, too swift for me to discriminate; the silent youth bowed, took me by the hand, led me into the theatre, and, with the greatest politeness, procured me an excellent seat. The room was very crowded, and in the course of a quarter of an hour after I had entered every avenue leading to it was completely filled with genteel company. The benches of the auditors of the lecture displayed great beauty and fashion: a stage, or tribune, appeared in front; behind was a large inclined slate, in a frame, about eight feet

high by six long. On each side of the stage the scholars were placed, and behind the spectators was a fine bust of the founder of the institution, the admirable de l'Epée.

" The abbé Sicard mounted the tribune, and delivered his lecture with very pleasing address, in the course of which he frequently excited great applause. The subject of it was an analysis of the language of the deaf and dumb, interspersed with several curious experiments upon, and anecdotes of, his pupils. The examination of the scholars next followed. The communication which has been opened to them in this singular manner is by the Philosophy of Grammar.

" The denotation of the tenses is effected by appropriate signs. The hand thrown over the shoulder expressed the past; when extended, like the attitude of inviting, it denoted the future; and the finger inverted upon the breast indicated the present tense. A single sign communicated a word, and frequently a sentence. A singular instance of the first occurred. A gentleman amongst the spectators, who appeared to be acquainted with the art of the abbé, was requested to make a sign to the pupil then under examination: the moment it was made, the scholar chalked upon the slate, in a fine swift flowing hand, 'une homme.' The pupil erred: the gentleman renewed the sign; when he immediately wrote, 'une personne,' to the astonishment of every person present. This circumstance is a strong instance of the powers of discrimination of which this curious communication is susceptible.

" Some of the spectators requested the abbé to describe, by sign, several sentences which they repeated from memory or read from authors, which were immediately understood by the pupils and penciled upon the slate.

" The lecture and examination lasted about three hours. Upon the close of this interesting exhibition, a silent sympathy reigned throughout the spectators. Every face beamed with satisfaction. A tear was seen trembling in the eyes of many present. After a momentary pause, the hall rang with acclamations. Elegant women pressed forward in the crowd, to present some little token of their

delighted feelings to the children protected by this institution. It was a spectacle in which genius was observed assisting humanity, and nature, in a suffusion of gratitude, weeping over the hallowed and propitious endeavours of the good, the generous, and the enlightened. Well might the elegant and eloquent Kotzebue select from such a spot a subject for his pathetic pen, and give to the British Roscius of the present day the power of enriching its drama, by a fresh display of his unrivalled abilities. The exhibition of the Deaf and Dumb will never be eradicated from my mind. The tears which were shed on that day seemed almost sufficient to wipe away the recollection of those times in which misery experienced no mitigation; when everyone, trembling for himself, had no unabsoberd sensation of consoling pity to bestow upon the unfortunate. Those times are gone—may their absence be eternal! This institution is made serviceable to the state. A pupil of the college is one of the chief clerks of the national lottery-office, in which he distinguishes himself by his talents, his calculation, and upright deportment.

" Whilst the subject is before me, I beg leave to mention a curious circumstance, which was related by a very ingenious and honourable man, in a party where I happened to be present, to prove the truth and agreement of nature in her association of ideas. A blind man was asked by him, to what sound he resembled the sensation produced by touching a piece of red cloth; he immediately replied, to the sound of a trumpet. A pupil of the college of the deaf and dumb who could faintly hear a loud noise, if applied close to his ear, was asked, to what colour he could compare the sound of a trumpet, he said, it always excited in his mind the remembrance of scarlet cloth. Two pupils, male and female, of the same college, who had been placed near cannon when discharged, without being susceptible of the sound, were one day taken by their humane tutor into a room where the harmonica was playing; a musical instrument which is said to have a powerful influence over the nerves. He asked them, by signs, if they felt any sensation: they replied in the negative. He then placed the

hand of the girl upon the instrument, whilst it was playing, and repeated the question: she answered, that she felt a new pleasure enter the ends of her fingers, pass up her arms, and penetrate her heart.

" The same experiment was tried upon her companion, who seemed to be sensible of similar sensations of delight, but less acutely felt.

" The emotions of sympathy are, perhaps, more forcibly excited by music than by any other cause. An illustrious example of its effect is introduced into Boerhaave's academical lectures on the diseases of the nerves, published by Van Eems. Theodosius the great, by levying an excessive tribute, inflamed the minds of the people of Antioch against him, who prostrated his statues and slew his ambassadors.

" Upon coolly reflecting on what they had done, and remembering the stern and ruthless nature of their sovereign, they sent deputies to implore his clemency and forgiveness. The tyrant received them, without making any reply. His chief minister, lamenting the condition of these unhappy people, resolved upon an expedient to move the soul of his offended prince to mercy. He accordingly instructed the youths whose office it was to entertain the emperor with music during dinner, to perform an affecting and pathetic piece of music, composed for the purpose. The plaintive sounds soon began to operate. The emperor, unconscious of the cause, bedewed his cup with tears; and when the singers artfully proceeded to describe the sufferings of the people of Antioch, their imperial master could no longer contain himself, but, moved by their pathos, although unaccustomed to forgive, revoked his vengeance, and restored the terrified offenders to his royal favour.

" Madame E—, who is considered the first dilettante mistress of music in Paris, related to me an experiment which she once tried upon a young woman who was totally deaf and dumb. Madame E— fastened a silk thread about her mouth and rested the other end upon her piano-forte, upon which she played a pathetic air. Her visitor soon appeared much affected, and at length burst into tears. When she recovered, she wrote down upon a

piece of paper, that she had experienced a delight which she could not express, and that it had forced her to weep.

" I must reluctantly retire from this pleasing subject, by wishing that the abbé may long enjoy a series of blissful years, and that his noble endeavours, ' manifesting the enlightened times in which we live,' may meet with that philanthropic success, which, to his generous mind, will be its most desired reward here; assured, as he is, of being crowned with those unfading remunerations which are promised to the good hereafter.

" I one day dined at Bagatelle, which is about four miles from Paris, in the Bois du Boulogne, the Parisian Hyde-Park, in which the fashionable equestrian, upon his Norman hunter,

— with heel insidiously aside, provokes the canter which he seems to chide."

" The duellist also, in the covert windings of this vast wood, seeks reparation for the trifling wrong, and bleeds himself, or slaughters his antagonist. Bagatelle was formerly the little palace of the count d'Artois: the gardens and grounds belonging to it are beautifully disposed. What a contrast to the gloomy shades of Holyrood-House, in which the royal fugitive and his wretched followers have found an asylum!

" The building and gardens are in the taste of the Petit Trianon, but inferior to it. As usual, it is the residence of cooks and scullions, tenants of the government, who treat their visitors with good dinners and excellent wine, and take good care to make them pay handsomely for their faultless fare.

" Returning to my hotel rather late at night, I passed through the Champs Élysées, which, at this hour, seemed to be in all its glory. Every 'alley green' was filled with whispering lovers. On all sides, the sounds of festivity, of music, and dancing, regaled the ear. The weather was very sultry, and, being a little fatigued with rather a long walk, I entered through a trellis palisade into a spacious pavilion, where I refreshed myself with lemonade.

" Here I found a large bourgeois party enjoying themselves, after the

labours of the day, with the waltz, and their favourite beverage, lemonade. A stranger is always surprised at beholding the grace and activity which even the lowest orders of people in France display in dancing. Whiskered corporals, in thick dirty boots, and young tradesmen, in long great-coats, led off their respective *femmes de chambre* and *grisettes* with an elegance which is not to be surpassed in the jewelled birth-night ball-room. Nothing could exceed the sprightly carelessness and gay indifference which reigned throughout. The music in this place, as in every other of a similar description, was excellent.

" The French police, notwithstanding the invidious rumours which have been circulated to its prejudice, is the constant subject of admiration with every candid foreigner, who is enabled, under the shelter of its protection, to perambulate in safety every part of Paris and its suburbs, although badly lighted, at that hour of the night which in England seldom fails to expose the unwary wanderer to the pistol of the prowling ruffian. An enlightened friend of mine very shrewdly observed, that the English police seems to direct its powers and consideration more to the apprehension of the robber, than to the prevention of the robbery. In no country is the art of thief-catching carried higher than in England. In France, the police is in the highest state of respectability, and unites force to vigilance. The depredator who is fortunate enough to escape the former is seldom able to elude the latter.

" The grand national library of Paris is highly deserving of a visit, and is considered to be the first of its kind in Europe. In one of the rooms is a museum of antiquities. The whole is about to be removed to the old palace. In one of the wings of this noble collection, are the two celebrated great globes, which rest upon the ground, and rise through the flooring of the first story, where there is a railing round them. These globes I should suppose to be about eighteen feet high.

" From the grand national library I went with a party to the military review of all the regiments in Paris and its suburbs, by the first consul, in the Place de Caroussel, within the

gates and railing which he has raised for this purpose. We were introduced into the apartments of general Duroc, the governor of the palace, which were upon the ground-floor of the Tuilleries, and which afforded us an uninterrupted view of the whole of this superb military spectacle. A little before twelve o'clock, all the regiments of horse and foot, amounting to about 7000 men, had formed the line, when the consular regiment entered, preceded by their fine band, and the tambour major, who was dressed in great magnificence: this man is remarked in Paris for his symmetry and manly beauty. The cream-coloured charger of Bonaparte, upon which 'labouring for destiny, he has often made dreadful way in the field of battle,' next passed us, led by grooms in splendid liveries of green and gold, to the grand entrance. As the clock struck twelve, the first consul, surrounded by a chosen body of the consular guard, appeared and mounted. He immediately rode off in full speed to the gate nearest to the gallery of the Louvre, followed by his favourite generals, superbly attired, mounted upon chargers very richly caparisoned. My eye, aided by a good opera-glass, was fixed upon the first consul. I beheld before me a man whose renown is sounded through the remotest regions of the earth, and whose exploits have been united, by the worshippers of favoured heroism to the conqueror of Darius. His features are small and meagre: his countenance is melancholy, cold, and desperate: his nose is aquiline: his eyes are dark, fiery, and full of genius: his hair, which he wears cropped and without powder, is black: his figure is small, but very muscular. He wore a blue coat, with broad white facings and golden epaulets (the uniform of his regiment), a small cocked hat, in which was a little national cockade. In his hand he carried a small riding whip. His boots were made in the fashion of English riding boots, which I have before condemned, on account of their being destitute of military appearance. The reason why they are preferred by the French officers is, on account of the top leather not soiling the knees of the pantaloons when in the act of putting one leg over the other. Bonaparte rode through the lines. His beautiful charger seemed conscious of the glory of his rider, and bore him through the ranks with a commanding and majestic pace. The colours of one of the regiments was stationed close under the window where I had the good fortune of being placed: here the hero stopped, and saluted them. At this time I was close to him, and had the pleasure of completely gratifying that curiosity of beholding the persons of distinguished men, which is so natural to all of us.

"A few minutes after Bonaparte had passed, I saw a procession, the history of which I did not understand at the time, but which fully explained its general purport. About two years since, one of the regiments of artillery revolted in battle: Bonaparte, in anger, deprived them of their colours, and suspended them, covered with crape, amongst the captive banners of the enemy, in the Hall of Victory. The regiment, affected by the disgrace, were determined to recover the lost esteem of their general and their country, or perish to the last man. When any desperate enterprise was to be performed, they volunteered their services, and, by this magnanimous compunction, covered their shame with laurels, and became the boast and pride of the republican legions. This day was fixed upon for the restoration of their ensigns. They were marched up under a guard of honour, and presented to the first consul, who took the black drapery from their staves, tore it in pieces, threw it on the ground, and drove his charger indignantly over it. The regenerated banners were then restored to the regiment, with a short and suitable address: I faintly heard this Iaconic speech, but not distinctly enough to offer any criticism upon the eloquence of the speaker. This exhibition had its intended effect, and displayed the genius of this extraordinary man, who, with unerring acuteness, knows so well to give to every public occurrence that dramatic hue and interest which are so gratifying to the minds of the people over whom he presides. After this ceremony, the several regiments, preceded by their bands of music, marched before him in open order, and dropped their colours as they passed. The flying artillery and

cavalry left the parade in full gallop, and made a terrific noise upon the pavement. Each field-piece was drawn by six horses, upon a carriage with large wheels. Here the review closed.

" Farewell the neighing steed and the
shill trump,
The spirit-stirring drum, the ear-piercing fife,
The royal banner, and all quality,
Pride, pomp, and circumstance, of glo-
rious war."

" Bonaparte returned to the palace, where he held a splendid levee, at which the new Turkish embassy was introduced.

" In the evening I saw Bonaparte and his lady at the opera, where he was received with respect, but without any clamorous acclamation.

" Madame Bonaparte appears to be older than the first consul: she is an elegant woman, and is said to conduct herself in her high station with becoming dignity and prudence." p.
213.

We shall also add the general remarks which illustrate the character of the French.

" The fact seems at first singular. Two of the greatest nations under heaven, whose shores almost touch, and, if ancient tales be true, were once unsevered, call the natives of each other foreigners.

" Jealousy, competition, and consequent warfare, have, for ages, produced an artificial distance and separation, much wider, and more impasseable, than nature ever intended by the division which she has framed; hence, whilst the unassisted eye of the islander can, from his own shores, with 'unwet feet' behold the natural barrier of his continental neighbour, he knows but little more of his real character and habits than of those of beings who are more distantly removed from him, by many degrees of the great circle.

" The events which have happened in France for the last eleven years have rendered this separation more severe, and, during that long and gloomy interval, have wholly changed the national character. Those who once occupied the higher class in the ascending scale of society, and who have survived the revolution without leaving their country, are no longer

able to display the taste and munificence which once distinguished them. In the capital, those who formerly were accustomed to have their courtyards nightly filled with carriages, and their staircases lined with lacquies, are now scarcely able to occupy one third of their noble abodes. They cannot even enjoy the common observances of friendship and hospitality, without pausing, and resorting to calculation. A new race of beings, called the 'nouveaux enrichis,' whose services have been chiefly auxiliary to the war, at present absorb the visible wealth of the nation: amongst them are many respectable persons. The lower orders of the people have been taught, by restless visionaries, to consider the destinations of Providence, which had before, by an imperceptible gradation of social colouring, united the russet brown to the magisterial purple, as usurpations over those natural rights which have been impressed without illustration, and magnified by a mischievous mystery. In the fierce pursuit of these imaginary immunities, which they had been taught to believe had been long withheld, they abruptly renounced all deference and decorum, as perilous indications of the fallacy of their indefinable pretensions, and were not a little encouraged by the disastrous desertion of their superiors, who fled at the first alarm. In short, the revolution has, in general, made the higher orders poor and dispirited, and the lower barbarous and insolent, whilst a third class has sprung up, with the silence and suddenness of an exhalation, higher than both, without participating in the original character of either, in which the principles of computation and the vanity of wealth are at awkward variance.

" Until lately, the ancient French and the modern French were antipodes; but they are now converging under a government which, in point of security, and even of mildness, has no resemblance, since the first departure from the ancient establishments. The French, like the libertine son, after having plunged in riot and excesses, subdued by wretchedness, are returning to order and civilization. Unhappy people! their tears have almost washed away their offences; they have suffered to their heart's core,

Who will not pity them to see their change, and hear their tales of misery? Yet, strange to relate! in the midst of their sighs and sufferings, they recount, with enthusiasm, the exploits of those very men whose heroin ambition has trampled upon their best hopes and proudest prosperity. Dazzled by the brilliancy of the spreading flame, they forget that their own abode is involved in its desolation, and augments the gloomy grandeur of the scene. To this cause may, perhaps, be traced that singular union of grief and gaiety, which affords rather an impressive contrast to the more solemn consistency of English sadness. The terrible experiment which they have tried has, throughout, presented a ferocious contest for power, which has only served to deteriorate their condition, sap their vigour, and render them too feeble either to continue the contest, or to reach the frontier of their former character. In this condition they have been found by a man who, with the precedent of history in one hand and the sabre in the other, has, unstained with the crimes of Cromwell, possessed himself of the sovereignty; and, like Augustus, without the propensities which shaded his early life, preserved the name of a republic, whilst he well knows that a decisive and irresistible authority can alone reunite a people so vast and distracted; who, in the pursuit of a fatal phantom, have been inured to change, and long alienated from subordination. I would not wish such a government to be perpetual, but if it be conducted with wisdom and justice, I will not hesitate to declare, that I think it will ultimately prove as favourable to the happiness as it has been propitious to the glory of the French. A government which breathes a martial spirit under a thin appearance of civil polity presents but barren subject to the consideration of the enquirer. When the sabre is changed into the sceptre, the science of legislation is short, simple, and decisive: its energies are neither entangled in abstract distinctions, nor much impeded by the accustomed delays of deliberation.

" From the magnitude of the present ruling establishment in France, and the judicious distribution of its powers and confidence, the physical

strength can scarcely be said to reside in the governed.

" A great portion of the population participates in the character of the government. The bayonet is perpetually flashing before the eye. The remark may appear a little ludicrous, but, in the capital, almost every man who is not *near-sighted* is a soldier, and every soldier of the republic considers himself as a subordinate minister of state. In short, the whole political fabric is a refined system of knight's service. Seven centuries are rolled back, and, from the gloom of time, behold the crested spirit of the Norman hero advance, 'with beaver up,' and nod his sable plumes, in grim approval of the novel, gay, and gaudy, feedality.

" If such an expectation may be entertained, that time will replace the ancient family upon the throne, I am far from believing that it can offer much consolation to the illustrious wanderer, who, as yet, has only tasted of the name of sovereignty. If the old royalty is ever restored, it is my opinion, and I offer it with becoming deference, that, from personal hatred to the present titular monarch, and the dread of retaliation by a lineal revival of monarchy, the crown will be placed upon the brows of one of the collateral branches of the expatriated family. The prince de Condé is the only member of that august house of whom the French speak with esteem and approbation.

The treasury of the French is, as may be expected, not overflowing, but its resources must speedily become ample. The necessities of the state, or rather the peculations of its former factious leaders, addressed themselves immediately to the purses of the people, by a summary process completely predatory. Circuitous exaction has been, till lately, long discarded. The present rulers have not yet had sufficient time to digest and perfect a financial system by which the establishments of the country may be supported by indirect and unoffending taxation. Wisdom and genius must long and ardently labour, before the ruins and rubbish of the revolution can be removed. Every effort hitherto made to raise the deciduous credit of the republic has been masterly, and forcibly bespeaks the public hope and

confidence in favour of every future measure.

" The armies of the republic are immense: they have hitherto been paid and maintained by the countries which they have subdued: their exigencies, unless they are employed, will in future form an embarrassing subject of consideration in the approaching system of finance. This mighty body of men, who are very moderately paid, are united by the remembrance of their glory and the proud consideration that they constitute a powerful part of the government, an impression which every French soldier cherishes. They also derive some pride even from their discipline: a military delinquent is not subject to ignoble punishment; if he offend, he suffers as a soldier. Imprisonment or death alone displaces him from the ranks: he is not cut down fainting, and covered with the ignominious wounds of the dissecting scourge, and sent to languish in the reeking wards of hospitals.

" In reviewing the present condition of France, the liberal mind will contemplate many events with pleasure, and will suspend its final judgment until wisdom and genius shall repose from their labours, and shall proclaim to the people, ' behold the work is done.'

" It has been observed, that, in reviewing the late war, two of the precepts of the celebrated author of '*The Prince*' will hereafter be enshrined in the judgments of politicians, and will be as closely adhered to, as they have been boldly disregarded by that great man who, till lately, has long presided over the British councils. Machiavel has asserted, that no country ought to declare war with a nation which, at the time, is in a state of internal commotion; and that, in the prosecution of a war, the refugees of a belligerent power ought not to be confidentially trusted by the opposite nation which receives them. Upon violating the former, those heterogeneous parties which, if left to themselves, will always embarrass the operations of their government, become united by a common cause; and by offending against the latter clause of this cautionary code, a perilous confidence is placed in the triumph of gratitude

and private pique over that great love which nature plants and warmly cherishes in the breast of every man, for his country. In ex-enution of a departure from these political maxims, it may be urged, that the French excited the war, and that, in the pursuit of it, they displayed a compound spirit, which Machiavel might well think problematical; for whilst that country never averted its eye from the common enemy, it never ceased to groan under the inflictions of unremitting factions. Rather less can be said in palliation of the fatal confidence which was placed by the English government in some of the French emigrants. I have mentioned these unhappy people in the aggregate with the respect which I think they deserve. To be protected, and not to betray, was all that could in fairness, and with safety, be expected from them: it was hazarding too much to put swords in their hands, and send them to their own shores to plunge them in the breasts of their own countrymen: in such an enterprise,

'....The native hue of resolution
Is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of
thought.'

The brave have not frequently wept over such a victim as Sombrieul.

" Whether the experiment of repelling those machinations which warred against all established order and all sanctioned usage, by a novel and unnatural opposition, is attributable to any other cause than that of a misjudging principle, must be decided by Him whose mighty hand suspended the balance of the battle, and whose eye can, at a glance, pierce through the labyrinth of human obliquity, however compact, shaded, or concealed. If the late minister is chargeable with a prolongation of the war, if he is responsible for having misplaced his confidence, and if brave men have perished by the fatal delusion, he will find some, if not ample, consolation, in reflecting, that, by his vigilance and vigour, he has saved his country from the miseries of a revolutionary frenzy, which has rendered even our enemies the objects of our sympathy and compassion.

" Such is the narrowness of our nature, that we know not how adequately to appreciate our preservation

from an intercepted evil : it is indistinctly seen, like a distant object. The calamity must touch before its powers and magnitude can be estimated. The flames of the neighbouring pile must stop at our very doors, before our gratitude becomes animated with its highest energies. If Providence were to unfold to us all the horrors which we have escaped—if all the blood which would have followed the assassin's dagger were to roll in reeking streams before us—if the full display of irreligion, flight, massacre, confiscation, imprisonment, and famine, which would have graced a revolutionary triumph in these realms, were to be unbarred to our view, how should we recoil from the ghastly spectacle ! With what emotions of admiration and esteem should we bend before the man whose illumined mind and dignified resolution protected us from such fell perdition, and confined the ravages of the ‘ bellowing storm ’ within its own barrier.

“ The dazzling and perilous claims of the Rights of Man, in the abstract, have had a long and ample discussion before the sanguinary tribunals of another country ; and the loud decree of an indignant and insulted world has pronounced their eternal doom : other contests may arise ; but the powers of a prophet are not necessary to assert, that such rights will form no part of their provocation.

“ In France, I was repeatedly asked my opinion of the probable stability of the peace. The question was always addressed in this rather curious shape : ‘ thank God, we have peace ! Will your country let us enjoy it ? ’ My answer was, ‘ you may be assured of it ; for it will not cease to be prepared for war.’

“ Alas ! the restless spirit of ambition seldom long delights in repose. The peaceful virtues, under whose influence nations flourish and mankind rejoice, possess no lasting captivations for the hero. The draught of conquest maddens his brain, and excites an insatiable thirst for fresh achievements—he

‘ Looks into the clouds, scorning the base degrees
By which he did ascend’ ——————

May that extraordinary being into

whose hands the fate of millions is deposited reverse the gloomy picture, and restore to a country long wasted by revolutions and warfare, and languishing in the midst of the monuments of her glory, the benign blessings of enduring tranquillity. But if this hope prove fruitless, if all the countries of continental Europe are destined to be compressed into one empire, if their devoted princes are doomed to adorn the triumphs of the chief of that mighty republic, which now towers above the surrounding nations of the earth, like the pyramid of the desert, what have we to fear, even though the ocean which divides us should become the *soldier’s element* ?

“ When an enlightened Frenchman is asked what he thinks of his government, his answer is, ‘ we want repose.’ For this alone, a stranger to the recent occurrences of the world would think he had toiled, just as valetudinarians take exercise for the purpose of securing sleep. Even those who have profited of eleven years of desolation are ready to acknowledge that war is not pastime, and that a familiarity with its horrors does not lessen them. The soldier, drooping under the weight of booty, pants for the refreshing shades of his native village, and for the hour which is to restore him to his alienated family.

“ I am satisfied, that both in France and England, one desire pervades all classes of people, that two nations, so brave, and so worthy of reciprocal esteem, may at last grow wise and virtuous enough to abstain from those ebullitions of furious hostility which have stained so many centuries with blood.

“ Peace is the gem with which Europe has embellished her fair but palpitating bosom ; and may disappointment and dishonour be the lot of that ambitious and impolitic being who endeavours or who wishes to pluck it from her ! ” p. 261.

This conclusion was written previous to the late rupture : but ‘ what have we to fear, even though the ocean which divides us should become the *soldier’s element* ? ’—is a declaration which, at this critical period, will be joyfully remembered by every lover of his country.

LXXXVIII. SERMONS. By WILLIAM LAURENCE BROWN, D.D. 8vo. 500 pages. 7s. Longman and Rees.

THESE excellent and liberal discourses are eighteen in number, and have for their subjects—the duty and character of a christian preacher; love of God; joy and peace in believing; indifference in religion; folly of procrastination; religion the chief good; rewards of religious constancy and perseverance; progressive nature of religion; prudence and simplicity of character; union of prudence and simplicity; motives to cultivate prudence and simplicity; the happiness of a mind open to truth and duty; temptations and dangers of opulence; ditto of poverty; pride; grounds of pride; humility; and the unfailing nature of charity. One specimen, taken from the 12th sermon, will be sufficient.

" That the greatest evils to which we are at present exposed proceed from the folly and corruption of mankind, will be acknowledged by every person of discernment. If we could always clearly discover and steadily pursue the path of duty, how desirable would the present condition of man become, and how few and light would be the calamities that fell to his share, compared with those which now assail him! Even here below, our gracious Creator intended us to be happy, although in a degree infinitely inferior to that consummation of felicity which he has promised in a future state. All our faculties are evident sources of enjoyment, and proofs of his benignity. To natural evils, to disease and pain, to distress and affliction, to accidents and to death, we are unavoidably exposed. But how small are these, and few, in comparison of that dismal list of woes which human degeneracy has produced and perpetuates, in every tremendous and desolating form! Even many of the evils which may be properly termed natural are either the concomitants or the punishments of vice. Human corruption has totally inverted the order and course of things, and deformed the face of nature. Another world has risen from the ruins of that which God created;

and, as divine wisdom brought light out of darkness, and order out of confusion, so human depravity has made darkness succeed to light, and confusion to order. The numberless evils and calamities of the present state of man are principally derived from his folly and corruption; these evils and calamities also contribute to the perpetuation of their source. Depravity and suffering assume, in turns, the characters of cause and effect; and, while corruption is multiplying her direful offspring of miseries, these are continually supporting and strengthening their parent.

" We came into the world weak, indeed, and ignorant, but endued with capacities of endless improvement. Were our faculties freely allowed to unfold, and directed to their proper objects, our progress in wisdom would be easy and rapid, and our enjoyments exalted and substantial. But such powerful obstacles are, on all hands, opposed to our entrance into that path which our Creator has marked out for us, that multitudes never enter into it at all, and the small number who do, persevere in their progress only by a continual warfare. The present world may, with respect to the interests of our souls, be justly compared to an enemy's country, where we have not only to engage in open battle, but also to guard against secret ambuscades. Multiplied prejudices, consecrated by antiquity; corrupt opinions, strengthened in their march through a long succession of ages; groundless associations of ideas, consolidated and confirmed by all the power of habit and custom; delusive pleasures, flattering the senses and cherished with the warmth of appetite; bad example, disguised under some splendid appearance; the contagion of wicked company; fraud and deception, clothed in the specious colours of friendship and truth; generous and good principles, turned from their objects and rushing to excess;—these open or secret enemies surround us on every side, and either entice or drag us into the paths of fully, of vice, and of misery.

" When we hang on the breast, we suck the prejudices of our nurses with the nourishment we receive from them, and our minds begin to acquire distortion when our bodies begin their

growth. The whole period of infancy is delivered over to the impressions of sense, which are established long before reason has any power to oppose them. Youth is inflamed with all the ardour of passion, and, impatient of restraint and thirsting for gratification, spurns the dictates of that wisdom whose seat was never placed on the firm basis of early education. Manhood, already corrupted in youth, turns its views to new objects; but these are equally vain and unprofitable; and the wisdom of maturer years, perverted into cunning and deceit, is made subservient to fortune or to ambition, which, with an increase of care, bring an increase of misery. Old age, stripped of the ardour and energy of preceding periods, still retains their vain opinions and perverse inclinations, and, if it catch at times a glimpse of immortality, and be convinced of the necessity of preparing for it, the road, which it must pursue for this purpose, appears too steep and rugged, and perhaps at the first step it makes in this road it sinks into the grave.

" Thus most men proceed through the different stages of life, without acquiring that wisdom and virtue of which the whole of our present state is intended to be a school, as a preparation for a better. Although, in the uncorrupted nature of things, truth and solid happiness lie at no distance from us, nevertheless, partly by the illusions of our own minds and partly by the absurdity and profligacy of others, a powerful barrier is placed between them and us, which it requires the courage of a hero and the strength of a giant to surmount.

" Two grand objects occupy the attention and the activity of all mankind; the acquirement of good and the removal of evil. But what are the enjoyments pursued?—Frivolous and insignificant pleasures, which either afford no satisfaction deserving that name, or, at least, one infinitely small, in comparison of that happiness for which the soul of man is formed. This, consisting in the improvement of the understanding, in the practice of virtue, and in the consolations and supports of religion, is either unknown or neglected. What are the evils most abhorred and avoided?—Imaginary objects of terror, or

those inconveniences which affect only our external circumstances. But the real evils of human nature, ignorance, corruption, the divine displeasure, the danger of eternal punishment, are never seriously apprehended, or considered as secondary causes of anxiety.

" The most melancholy reflection of all is, that the very education which the generality of mankind receive serves frequently to confirm them in error, and to lead them to disastrous conduct. In matters of mere speculation, how often are theories substituted in the room of discoveries, and fancy in that of knowledge! How often are unmeaning words and unintelligible jargon vented for just explanations of the natures and causes of things! Moral instruction is, of all, most neglected. The greater part of men are allowed to collect their notions of right and wrong, of virtue and vice, of the part they are bound to act in life, and of the course they ought to avoid, wherever they can find them. They seek them, accordingly, in the sentiments of the world, in the practice of their associates, in the dictates of their own passions, in the example that is set before them by those on whom they depend, which is frequently an exhibition of selfishness and profligacy. Craft is denominated wisdom; austerity, temperance; avarice, frugality; duplicity, prudence. Even in matters relating to religion, when religion is at all attended to, bigotry, enthusiasm, or superstition, are clothed in the garb of that ' godliness, which is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.' Every virtue and every pious feeling are thus either removed from their proper place, or carried to criminal excess. In politics, what pernicious systems are often maintained under the most specious names! Tyranny and oppression are considered as good government; anarchy and licentiousness are embraced as liberty; and blind attachment to party is extolled as patriotism. In this manner, opinions, the most absurd and pernicious, are impressed on the mind, under the guise of salutary principles, and instruction itself and knowledge are employed to perpetuate ignorance and error.

" Hence so many obstacles have,

in every age and nation, been opposed to the discovery and progress of truth. Never has that celestial form descended from heaven to enlighten and bless mankind, but she has found ignorance, prejudice, pride, ambition, and selfishness, arrayed in arms to obstruct her course and to defeat her purposes. If at any time she obtain a complete triumph, it must be the effect, not merely of her inherent excellence, but also of steady perseverance. She, who breathes peace, harmony, and love, is often obliged to establish her empire through contention and bloodshed! Witness the struggles which Christianity had to undergo, before it could make its way in the world; and those which took place before it could be reformed from the grossest corruptions! Hence our Saviour declares, 'he came not to send peace, but a sword,' knowing that the obstinate prejudices and headstrong profligacy of mankind would resist the arm that 'brought them salvation,' and convert the heavenly voice which proclaimed 'peace on earth and good will towards men' into the cry of war, and desolation, and carnage. The history of his church has woefully verified the prediction!

"Blind and infatuated mortals! who resist your deliverer, and hug the fiends that deceive and torment you! Your slavery is the more deplorable, that, unconscious of your state, you cherish your tyrannical passions, delight in their yoke, and, inured to the dungeon into which they have thrown your minds, cannot endure the light of divine instruction! Measuring the extent of wisdom by your own narrow capacities, and the standard of duty by your corrupt conceptions, you imagine yourselves perfect, and, like the young man in the parable, are ready to say, 'what lack we yet?' Your aversion from correction and improvement is proportionate to your need of them, and your presumption keeps pace with your folly! 'Who shall deliver you from this captivity to sin, from this body of death?'

"In fact, my brethren, one of the greatest terrestrial blessings is, a mind unbiassed by strong prejudice and partiality, open to the access of truth, desirous of discovering it, ready to receive and embrace it, from what-

ever quarter it may come, firmly attached to duty, placing its greatest felicity in obeying its dictates, and determined to abandon every other interest by which these are opposed. The real honour of man consists, not in those external circumstances over which he has no power, and which may promiscuously be allotted to the foolish and the wise, to the good and the bad, but in what constitutes the excellence of human nature, intellectual, moral, and religious, improvement. For this, the knowledge of truth is indispensably necessary; and truth can never be discovered without a mind strongly impressed with a sense of its high importance, and ready to admit it, whatever may be the consequence. But, as our Saviour says of miracles, 'this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting;' is not obtained, unless by earnest and frequent supplication to God, to 'remove far from us vanity and lies; unless by constant attention to our own hearts, by long mental discipline, and by a well-grounded faith in the gospel.'

"The sages of antiquity called philosophy the purifier of the soul. They were persuaded that the chief difficulty was, to remove the obstructions to the attainment of true wisdom, raised by the folly and corruption of mankind. When this was accomplished, they knew that the pure and salutary stream of truth would find a smooth and easy channel, reach the understanding, and refresh, purify, and invigorate, the heart. But how ineffectual were their vague and contradictory speculations for accomplishing this glorious purpose! On us the resplendent and steady light of the gospel has shined. It has unfolded 'life and immortality,' has, by exhibiting to our view the glorious victim expiring on the cross, shown us, that to those 'who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit, the condemnation of sin' lies no longer in the way to eternal felicity, and revealed to us 'the perfect law of liberty,' 'wherewith Christ has made us free.' If we receive divine truth from the oracles of God themselves, unsophisticated by the corruptions of men, we shall be 'wise unto salvation,' and enjoy that 'light which is sown for the righteous, and that gladness' which belongs to 'the upright in heart.'

Our saving knowledge shall increase every day, our relish of it become more and more exquisite, our affections be more and more refined and exalted; and, while ‘vanity and lies are far removed from us,’ our virtue shall be strengthened and improved. We shall move forward in the path of duty, without ‘turning therefrom to the right hand or to the left,’ and the holy word of God being a ‘lamp unto our feet’ and a light unto our path; we shall ‘rejoice in the hope of his glory,’ and clearly discerning and manfully combating the enemies of our salvation, shall obtain ‘the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.’ ‘Even the valley of the shadow of death’ shall be irradiated by the beams of religion, and, when we have safely passed it, we shall enter into that ‘city which hath no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it; for the glory of God doth lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.’ ‘This mortal shall put on immortality, and death be swallowed up in victory.’ ‘We shall know even as also we are known,’ comprehend and admire the vast and glorious plans of the divine dispensations, adore their Author, and, enjoying all the delights of celestial love, proceed, in the company of our blessed Saviour, and of his saints, in a course of increasing, yet endless, improvement and happiness.”

P. 349.

out. By the REV. CHARLES DAUBENBY. 8vo. 471 pages. 8s. Rivington.

WE mention these two controversial pieces together, because they are written with ability, on both sides of a much disputed question. Readers must peruse both sides before they can fully ascertain the merits of the contest. We hope, however, the combatants will not forget to exercise towards each other the spirit of their common christianity.

XCI. *THE Sportsman's Cabinet; or, correct Delineations of the various Dogs used in the Sports of the Field, including the canine race in general.* pt. 1. royal 4to. 11. 11s. 6d. bds. Cundee.

THIS work may fairly be pronounced the most splendid production of the kind that has ever yet appeared. It consists of several superb engravings (with correspondent letter-press) of sporting dogs, from capital paintings taken from life; and embraces the most important subjects relative to sporting: Mr. Reinagle is the painter, and Mr. John Scott the engraver. As a specimen, we have extracted the following account of ancient and modern coursing.

“The greyhound, under the ancient name of gaze-hound, formed one of the earliest dogs of the chase, and, from the very nature of his first appellation, was intended only to run by sight. He was the original accompaniment of royalty in the sports of the field; and in lieu of fines and forfeitures due to the crown, king John was wont to accept of greyhounds; whether, when received as a tax, he was able to obtain those of a superior description, is not to be ascertained. But the dog of that day, which under kings was the concomitant of hawking, was long-haired, and somewhat resembling the one used by warreners; and in the oldest pictures now extant on the subject, the spaniel, and sometimes the pointer, accompanied the sportsman in what was at that period denominated—courting.

LXXXIX. *THE True Churchman ascertained; or, an Apology for those of the regular Clergy of the Establishment who are sometimes called Evangelical Ministers; occasioned by the publications of Drs. Paley, Hey, Croft, Messrs. Daubeny, Ludlam, Polwhele, Fellowes, the Reviewers, &c.* By JOHN OVERTON, A.B. 2d edit. 8vo. 424 pages. 8s. Marman.

XC. *VINDICÆ ECCLESIAE ANGLICANÆ; in which some of the false Reasonings, incorrect Statements, and palpable Misrepresentations, in a publication entitled “The True Churchman Ascertained,” by John Overton, A.B., are pointed*

" The greyhound then employed was probably larger than even the warren-mongrel, resembling more the shaggy wolf-dog of former times than any sporting dog of the present day. The Wolds of Yorkshire, which, like the Wealds of Kent, are a corruption of the word ' Wildis,' appear, from the dates of parish books, to have been infested with wolves later than any other part of England. In the entries at Flixton, Stackston, and Folkton, in the east riding of Yorkshire, are still to be seen memoranda of payments made for the destruction of wolves, at a certain rate per head. They used to breed in the cars below, amongst the rushes, furze, and bogs, and in the night time come up from their dens, and unless the sheep had been previously driven into the town, or the shepherds indefatigably vigilant, great numbers of them were destroyed; it being observed of all wild animals, that, when they have opportunity to depredate, they prefer the blood to the flesh of the victim, of course, commit much unnecessary carnage.

" From the wolves having so long remained in the parts just mentioned, it is not more than fifty years since many of the long-haired, curl-tailed, greyhounds were to be traced, bred originally from the wolf-dog; and some of these, for a short distance, could run with surprising velocity. That a dog of this description should sufficiently gratify the coursing sentiment of that day, is by no means surprising; the uncultivated face of the country, covered with brakes, bushes, wood, and infinite obstacles, may readily account for it. In running their game, they had to surmount these impediments, and to dart thro' thorn hedges (in that unimproved state) which covered eighteen or twenty feet in width, and frequently to kill their object of pursuit in the middle of them.

" These dogs were accustomed to lie, unhoused, upon the cold ground, and to endure all hardships of indifferent food and more indifferent usage; but when the owner (or protector) lived in the open air, unmindful of the elements and regardless of the storm, it can create no surprise that the faithful dog should fare no better than his master. This, most likely,

was the earliest stage of the gaze or grey-hound, wild in his aspect, erect in his ears, and shaggy in his coat; but even in that unimproved state, they had many good points, as straight firm legs, round, hard, fox-bound, feet; were incredibly quick at catching view, and being instantaneously upon their legs, which modern sportsmen term ' firing quickly.'

" In uniform progress with time, improvement proceeded also; during 'the merry days of good queen Bess,' when maids of honour could breakfast upon beef and ride a gallop for a day together, the sports of the fields were objects of due attention. It was then her majesty, divested of regal dignity, would condescend to see a brace or two of deer pulled down by greyhounds, after dinner; and it was then that coursing began to assume a more regulated form, and to acquire a more universal degree of emulative estimation.

" Instead of the wild man with his wilder dogs, taking his solitary quest for game, the hourly enlightened-sportsmen of that day began to form themselves into meetings of more friendly congeniality, and rules were adopted by which a general confidence and mutual intercourse might be maintained. The duke of Norfolk, who was the leading sportsman of that time, was powerfully solicited, and ultimately prevailed upon, to draw up a proper code of laws, which (are already inserted, and) constitute the coursing magna charta of the present day.

" These rules, though established by a duke and regulated by a queen, rendered the coursing of that period but of a very sterile description. Pointers were used for the purpose of finding the game, and when any of these made a point, the greyhounds were uncoupled as a necessary prelude to the sport which was to ensue. The greyhounds, even at this time, deviated but little from the kind already described; rough and heavy, with strength enough to overcome any difficulty it might be necessary to break through. To found the era of improved coursing, and for introducing greyhounds of superior form and higher blood, was reserved for the late princely owner of Houghton. If the agricultural meetings in the most dis-

tant counties feel themselves gratefully justified in drinking, as their first toast, ‘the memory of Mr. Bakewell,’ no true and consistent coursing meeting can ever omit to give, with equal enthusiasm, ‘the memory of the earl of Orford.’

“ It is the distinguishing trait of genius to be enthusiastically bold and daringly courageous. Nothing in art or science, nothing in mental or even in manual labour, was ever achieved of superior excellence, without that ardent zeal, that impetuous sense of eager avidity, which, to the cold, inanimate, and unimpassioned, bears the appearance, and sometimes the unqualified accusation, of insanity. When a monarch of this country once received the news of a most heroic action maintained against one of his own fleets, and seemed considerably chagrined at the result, the then lord of the admiralty endeavoured to qualify and soften down the matter, by assuring the king, that ‘the commander of the enemy’s fleet was mad.’ —‘ Mad I would he were mad enough to bite one of my admirals !’

“ Lord Orford had absolutely a phrenetic fury of this kind, in any thing he found himself disposed to undertake; it was a predominant trait in his character never to do any thing by halves, and coursing was his most prevalent passion, beyond every other pleasurable consideration. In consequence of his most extensive property, and his extra influence as lord lieutenant of the county, he not only interested numbers of opulent neighbours in the diversion, but, from the extent of his connexions, could command such an immensity of private quarters for his young greyhounds, and of making such occasional selections from which, that few, if any, beside himself could possess.

“ There were times when he was known to have fifty brace of greyhounds; and, as it was a fixed rule never to part from a single whelp till he had a fair and substantial trial of his speed, he had evident chances (beyond almost any other individual) of having, amongst so great a number, a collection of very superior dogs; but, so intent was he upon this peculiar object of attainment, that he went still farther, in every possible direction, to obtain perfection, and

introduced every experimental cross, from the English lurcher to the Italian greyhound. He had strongly indulged an idea of a successful cross with the bull-dog, which he could never be divested of; and after having persevered (in opposition to every opinion) most patiently for seven removes, he found himself in possession of the best greyhounds ever yet known; giving the small ear, the rat-tail, and the skin almost without hair, together with that innate courage which the high-bred greyhound should possess, retaining which instinctively, he would rather die than relinquish the chase.

“ One defect only this cross is admitted to have, which the poacher would rather know to be a truth, than the fair sportsman would come willingly forward to demonstrate. To the former, it is a fact pretty well known, that no dog has the sense of smelling in a more exquisite degree than the bull-dog; and, as they run mute, they, under certain crosses, best answer the midnight purposes of the poacher, in driving hares to the wire or net. Greyhounds bred from this cross have therefore some tendency to run by the nose, which, if not immediately checked by the master, they will continue for miles, and become very destructive to the game in the neighbourhood where they are kept, if not under confinement or restraint.

“ Having necessarily adverted to the father of modern coursing, some distinguishing traits of his character (replete with anecdote) can prove no deviation from the descriptive variety previously promised in the course of the work. No man ever sacrificed so much time or so much property to practical or speculative sporting as the late earl of Orford; whose eccentricities are too firmly indented upon ‘the tablet of memory’ ever to be obliterated from the diversified rays of retrospection. Incessantly engaged in the pursuit of sport and new inventions, he introduced more whimsicalities, more experimental genius, and enthusiastic zeal, than any man ever did before him, or most probably any other man may ever attempt to do again.

“ Amongst his experiments of fancy was a determination to drive four

red deer (stags) in a phaeton instead of horses, and these he had reduced to perfect discipline for his excursions and short journeys upon the road; but, unfortunately, as he was one day driving to Newmarket, their ears were accidentally alighted with the cry of a pack of hounds, who, soon after crossing the road in the rear, immediately caught scent of the 'four in hand,' and commenced a new kind of chase with 'breast high' alacrity. The novelty of this scene was rich beyond description; in vain did his lordship exert all his chariotoeering skill, in vain did his well-trained grooms energetically endeavour to ride before them; reins, trammels, and the weight of the carriage, were of no effect; off they went with the celerity of a whirlwind; and this modern Phaeton, in the midst of his electrical vibrations of fear, bid fair to experience the fate of his namesake; luckily, however, his lordship had been accustomed to drive this Hudibrastic set of 'fiery-eyed' steeds to the Ram Inn at Newmarket, which was, most happily, at hand, and to this his lordship's fervent prayers and ejaculations had been ardently directed; into the yard they suddenly bounded, to the dismay of ostlers and stable-boys, who seemed to have lost every faculty upon the occasion: here they were luckily overpowered, and the stags, the phaeton, and his lordship, were all instantaneously huddled together in a large barn, just as the hounds appeared in full cry at the gate.

like old Lear, regardless of the elements.
‘ Blow, wind, and crack your cheeks!
rage! blow!
You cataracts, and hurricanes, spout
Till you have drench'd the steepies,
drown'd the cocks!’

for, innately warm with the predominance of his passion for sport, he set at defiance storms of every description.

“ At a particular period of his life, when

‘ The springs of nature rose above their level,’

there was a necessity for some degree of medical coercion, to bring them again within the bounds of prudent regulation. During this scene of unavoidable suspension from his favourite pursuits, the extreme attention shewn to him by a person who regulated his domestic concerns so much influenced his nicer sensations, that he dedicated to her the most tender and grateful affection during her life. The circumstance of her death (though by no means young or handsome) so much affected his lordship, that the nerves, before unstrung, again gave way, and the former malady returned with increasing violence. He was at this time confined, with an attendant necessary to the disordered state of his mind; but, with all that latent artifice for which objects of this description are so remarkable, he contrived, by some plausible pretext, to get his keeper out of the room,

" This singular circumstance, although most luckily attended with no accident, effectually cured his lordship's passion of deer-driving; but his invincible zeal for coursing, and his undiminished rage for its improvement, remained with him to the last. No day was too long or any weather too severe for him; those who have ever seen him, can never forget the extreme, laughable, singularity of his appearance. Mounted on a stump of a pye-balled poney (as uniformly broad as he was long), in a full suit of black, without either great-coat or gloves, his hands and face crimsoned with cold; and, in a fierce cocked hat, facing every wind that blew; and, while his gamekeepers were shrinking from the sand-gathering blasts of Norfolk, on he rode,

"Blow, wind, and crack your cheeks!
rage! blow!
You cataracts, and hurricanes, spout
Till you have drench'd the steeples,
drown'd the cocks!"

for, innately warm with the predominance of his passion for sport, he set at defiance storms of every description.

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" On that day, his favourite bitch, old Czarina, was to run a match of much magnitude: the game keepers had already taken her to the field, where a large party were assembled, equally lamenting the absence of his lordship and the cause by which his presence was prevented; when, at the very moment of mutual regret and condolence, who should appear, at full speed, on the pye-balled pony, but lord Orford himself.

"His presence all bosoms appeared to
distray,
His friends stood in silence and fear.

but none had power to restrain him, all attempts and entreaties were in vain; the match he was determined to see, and no persuasions whatever could influence him to the contrary. Finding no endeavours could divert him from the ecstatic expectation he had formed, the greyhounds were started, and Czavina won. During the course, no human power or exertion could prevent him from riding after the dogs, more particularly as his favourite bitch displayed her superiority in every stroke; when, in the moment of the highest exultation and the eagerness of his triumph, unfortunately falling from his poney, and pitching upon his head (whether occasioned by apoplexy, or such concussion upon the skull as instantly affected the brain), he almost immediately expired, to the inexpressible grief of those who surrounded him at the last moment of his life; individually convinced, that coursing was the predominant idea:

* Still liv'd the ruling passion strong in death.'

" A man of more simple manners, more liberal constructions, or of a more courteous nature, never was known to constitute a part of benevolent and philanthropic society. All the urbanities of life were his, and he seemed by nature formed to attract the most grateful attention; generally acquainted as he was, from his rank as well as from his sporting pursuits, with every condition of persons, from the prince to the peasant, his conversation was happily suited to each, and equally winning with them all.

" The prince of Wales, when occasionally visiting his lordship on a shooting party, saw at no other place such a profusion of game of every description; such a display of attendant gamekeepers; such a noble, tho' plain, hospitality, as at Houghton; and a park so curiously and infinitely stocked with every original in beast and fowl of almost every country, from the African bull to the pelican of the wilderness. When an actor, a poet, or an hero, dies, if his reputation be sufficient for the posthumous exaltation, we must look in Westminster abbey; if a great sportsman retires from the busy fashionable scene of life, his intrinsic worth can only be

ascertained by a walk to Tattersal's." p. 59.

XCHI. HISTORY of the Insurrection of the County of Wexford, A. D. 1798; including an Account of Transactions preceding that Event, with an Appendix. Embellished, with an elegant Map of the county of Wexford. By EDWARD HAY, ESQ., Member of the Royal Irish Academy. 300 pages. 8s. Currell.

THIS volume throws light on the late unhappy rebellion in Ireland, and appears to have been written by a person of knowledge and integrity. We forbear making extracts, for, in the present juncture, it would perhaps be better that many facts here stated should be buried in oblivion.

XCIH. WOMEN: their Condition and Influence in Society. By JOS. ALEX. SEGUR. Translated from the French. 3 vols. Fcap. 8vo. about 300 pages each. 12s. Longman and Rees.

THIS entertaining performance takes in the history of women throughout every age, but dwells particularly on the females who distinguished themselves by their courage and heroism during the French revolution. The preface will sufficiently explain the nature of the work.

" The proper study of mankind, I conceive, includes the study of both sexes. We ought not to confine our observations to one sex rather than the other; because if we presume that an absolute identity of passions, and inclinations, and dispositions, exists, it may justly be affirmed, that, in attempting to delineate the features of both, we have in fact produced a portrait of one only.

" But it is more than probable, that neither ancient nor modern philosophers, at least with very few exceptions, have pursued this comprehensive design; on the contrary, by

a singular partiality, they have represented man as the distinguished being, and have not even condescended to examine the attributes of that sex which they considered as altogether subordinate to him. The poets, however, by way of compensation, have dedicated their effusions to the celebration of female beauty. But what do they teach us? Do we know women better after hearing of the elegance of their form and the fascinating charms that adorn them? it is not sufficient that we describe them, we must write their history. This is the task which I have undertaken; and, in fulfilling it, I intend to pursue the middle path, as far as I am able, between those who contemn and traduce them, and those who adore them in the ardour of passion.

" In the researches which I have made relative to the condition, the morals, the passions, and the influence, of an oppressed sex, I have had no intention to weave a cloak for their errors and their foibles; I have merely attempted to unfold to view the virtues and the qualifications with which nature has deigned abundantly to endow them, and which contribute to our happiness even more than to their own. It seems as if she had decreed the separation of this part of ourselves with a view to re-union, still more conducive to our gratification, because effected through the medium of our affections, our pleasures, and our pains.

" Women are, if I may use the expression, another soul of our being, which, although enveloped in a separate covering, accords most uniformly with all our sentiments, which they inspire; with all our desires, which they excite and participate; and with all our weaknesses, which they can commiserate, without yielding to their influence. If man be unhappy, he requires of his soul an energy to enable him to support the load of physical sufferings, and of moral evils, still more difficult to sustain. But as this assistance must originate within himself, it necessarily partakes of the dejection which pervades his whole being. Should he resort to his other soul, he then feels how much the women deserve his admiration; these women, who approach him in enchanting forms, and admi-

nister an unexpected balm to his sorrows; and who make him sensible, in every particle of his being, that, although they appear distinct from himself, yet they are himself nevertheless. He observes these divinities of the earth unceasingly near him, who make him anticipate consolation, even before it is offered; whom he as-sents to at once, without waiting for the arguments of persuasion; and who seem to him an asylum against all misfortune.

" But since we are endowed with corporeal strength, the women are born to slavery or submission. Dependent on our passions and caprices awaiting the arbitrary decrees dictated to them by the forms of government, religion, morality, and the prejudices of men, here adored as divinities, there, esteemed as companions and equals, and there again, condemned to servitude and contempt —under all these different circumstances, we see them still retaining their characteristic distinctions, submitting with inexhaustible patience and enduring with inconceivable fortitude. Their faults are not augmented under the pressure of distress and humiliation. And which of our qualities do they not possess? one alone, Anacreon says, has been denied them; and that is prudence. But as they are every where led themselves, and never, unless by a temporary usurpation, are able to assume the lead of others, they have less inducement to the exercise of foresight than the men: their extreme sensibility, too, pleads their apology in this respect. Alive as they are to every impression that can excite their feelings, their situation is little calculated for the calm exertion of foresight; but, being always prepared to yield themselves up to the suggestions of the moment, they not unfrequently pass their lives in alternate action and repentance. Besides, as prudence is the result of reflection aided by experience, and, reciprocally, of experience matured and strengthened by reflection, how should they attain the qualification? The difference of sentiment which authors have expressed respecting them, seems to lead to an inference in their favour. Sophocles affirmed, that silence was their greatest ornament; and Plato, adopting the oppo-

site extreme, proposed that they should join in the same occupations with the men. Among the moderns, M. de Condorcet considers them as capacitated for the affairs of politics; while M. de St. Lambert condemns them to perpetual frivolities; and no doubt examples might be quoted, both in support and in refutation of both these modes of judgment.

" But must we not infer from this diversity of opinions that there is something extraordinary and inexplicable in the constitution of the sex, which renders them the subject of continual wonder and remark? The number of works which they have inspired seems to favour my idea; and I must observe, that the number of those who have written in their praise is much greater than that of their illuminators. Shall we deny them, with St. Lambert, political talents? how much address and intelligence have they not evinced in important intrigues, and even in negociation? how many treaties and unhoped-for alliances, of which the men received the honour, but the merit of which belonged to the women? how many great actions and great resolutions have been suggested and accomplished by them! what admirable enthusiasm have they not been able to excite, to lead on heroes to the brilliant exploits which themselves were incapable of executing, and when they could only console themselves for standing idle spectators by the flattering right of binding the laurels on the temples of the brave!

" If the men can boast of more prudence, the women have less egotism. How completely is self-forgotten in their sentiments! the sacrifice is so accordant with their feelings, that, with the exception of a little vanity, they lay aside all consideration of themselves. In short, so entirely do they devote themselves to others, that they have at length given reasons to believe that nature ordained the sacrifice; and hence all our laws oppress them, and of them are all privations required.

" Among no people, even the most savage, have we seen the men obliged to offer themselves a sacrifice on the tombs of the women, as have been the women on the funeral-pile of their

husbands.* And the history of men affords us no instance of an illustrious and voluntary victim of love, such as Dido, and many others that might be mentioned.

" The extreme of feeling belongs essentially to this sex alone; and their sensibility can only admit of comparison with their patience and resignation.

" Ever disposed to commiserate our distresses, to participate in our joys, and to offer us every thing in their power; evicting only the fear of poverty in the means of assisting us, and, if we repulse them with ingratitude, after having experienced so many kindnesses, departing without a murmur or a reproach, yet ready to return at our call, if fresh misfortunes oppress us—such are the generality of women.

" In this view, how can we chuse but love them? in other respects, how can we cease to pity them? Withheld from the pursuits of any occupation, scarcely allowed to regulate the concerns of their own family, bringing us wealth which they never command and presenting us with children who are not committed to their power, such is their condition. Let us not hesitate to say it; their existence resembles that of a conquered people, who can only hope to ameliorate their situation by the address they can employ to please their masters, and to soften the injustice of their usurpation and the severity of their caprices.

" The design of my work is to demonstrate the equality of the two sexes, different as they may be; and to prove that every thing is compensated between them; that if the one seems to be endowed with peculiar qualities, not possessed by the other, we cannot deny the other advantages equally to be valued; that where corporeal strength is wanting, strength of soul supplies the deficiency; that our domination over the female sex is but a continued usurpation; that they have dexterously availed themselves of every opportunity of re-establishing, at least for a time, the balance between us; that, in these

* Except among the Natches, where the women were sometimes the sovereigns.

moments of transient equality, they have evinced an ability for every thing, equal to our's; and that, with the exception of inventive genius, their intellectual faculties not inferior to our own.

" I have endeavoured also to prove that many differences arise solely from education and custom : education modifies the nature of all beings.

" Now all that the moral nature of women may have lost by the improper direction of their infancy, ought to be imputed to the men : they compress or expand at their will the faculties of the women ; and, with a provoking injustice, they assume the very obstacles which themselves have raised to their improvement as proofs of female inferiority.

" I shall confute this pretension by some historical facts. And in endeavouring to trace back the condition of women, in all ages and among different people, I have judged it necessary to go back to the origin of the world, in order to arrive by successive steps at our own times.

" Unquestionably, such a labour required talents which I do not possess ; but the subject itself, perhaps, is a sufficient plea for the indulgence which I must claim.

" I shall pity that calm frigidity of soul that can read, without interest, this essay on the history of a sex which has created the felicity of all ages ; of a sex adored by youth, esteemed by mature age, and respected and cherished by the old, with the hope that it will afford a charm and consolation to his last moments." p. xv.

Notes are added, by way of illustration : respecting a variety of such subjects, ancient and modern history appears to have been ransacked for the purpose of enumerating and recommending the virtues of J. Fais which seem in every part of the world to have commanded admiration.

THIS excellent and useful work, which cannot fail of being acceptable to schools and families, for which it is intended, consists of a series of lectures, written with great plainness and simplicity. The present volume is taken up with the existence, perfections, and providence, of God : the introductory address will shew the happy manner after which the plan is executed.

" *My dear young Friends,*

" It gives me peculiar pleasure to see you prepared to attend with seriousness to subjects which are calculated to improve your minds, to promote your happiness, and fit you for usefulness in society. That, while too many young persons are giving the reins to their appetites and passions and blindly following the impulses of mere animal desire or the illusions of a heated imagination, you are desirous of having your judgments well informed, that your appetites, passions, impulses, and desires, may all be subjected to the government of reason and the dictates of conscience, is a circumstance very encouraging to those who long for your happiness. That, while so many are giving into the vices and follies of the age and suffering themselves to be carried down the stream of thoughtlessness and dissipation, which cannot fail to land them in pain and misery, you are thoughtful, seeking after God, and manifesting a disposition to walk in his ways, must be a source of pleasure to those whose great business in life is, to promote the knowledge of divine truth and lead their fellow creatures in the paths of rectitude and virtue : we fondly cherish the hope that you will continue to be our joy and rejoicing. Go on, dear youth, with steadiness, diligence, and perseverance, in the pursuit of knowledge, in the use of every means that may establish you in habits of virtue ; and let it be your constant study to maintain 'a conscience without offence, both towards God and towards man.' In pursuing this course, you will find that peace and solid enjoyment which can never be derived from sensual gratifications. Should my lectures assist your enquiries after truth and add strength to your virtuous emotions, it will increase my happiness. To see you

XCIV. INSTRUCTION for Youth,
in a Series of Lectures on moral and
religious subjects. Intended for the
use of Schools and Families. By
RICHARD WRIGHT. 18mo.
vol. 1. 2s.6d. 220 pages. Vidier.

VOL. II.

growing in knowledge, walking in the paths of rectitude, setting a good example before others, diffusing happiness around you in those stations in which divine providence may place you, when come to years of maturity, will, if my life be spared, cheer my heart, and make the remembrance of my present labours for your improvement peculiarly pleasant.

" When I cast my eyes around on the circle of my friends and acquaintance, I observe some whom I value and esteem growing old, and others who, if not prematurely cut off, must soon descend the vale of years and quit their places among the living—then I turn my eyes towards you, and solace myself with the prospect, that whatever ravages the stroke of death, the hand of time, or other unforeseen events, may make in the circle of my friends and acquaintance, may be more than repaired by your growing up around me in the bonds of virtuous friendship and edifying sociality. In delivering these lectures, my wish is to draw you around me as a band of friends, and to treat you as those whom I wish to become my associates in the pursuit of knowledge, the cultivation of virtue, and the practice of goodness. Hence I intend adopting as easy and familiar a style as I possibly can, and talking to you more in the character of an associate and friend than in that of a mere lecturer.

" Again: when I look around me on those who are filling up the various relations of life with propriety, and rendering themselves an honour and a blessing to their connections—or those who, in their particular stations and in following their employments in the world, do honour to religion and promote the good of mankind—on those who are exercising all the social virtues, and scattering blessings around them, by relieving the distressed, reprobating the vicious, soothing the mourner, counselling the ignorant, and protecting the widow and fatherless—I feel my heart warmed with gratitude to God for making man, for forming him a social being, for placing him in such a world as this, and for arranging circumstances as we now find them; seeing even the evils of human life make room for the exercise of the most exalted virtues, enlarge the sphere of generous and

benevolent action, and excite the best feelings of the heart; while the mutual wants and mutual dependence of creatures, their mutual relations and social intercourse, improve the moral state, by calling forth a combination of virtues, and strengthening them by exercise. But, at the same time, I cannot banish the recollection that those who now gladden the domestic scene, fill the various relations and stations of human life to advantage, who practise all the virtues and render themselves a blessing to society, must quickly pass away, they must be lodged in the silent tomb, the place that hath known them will know them no more, and who are then to fill up the places they occupy, and perform those duties in society which are now performed by them? Who will then instruct the ignorant, watch over and guide the young, support and comfort the aged, wipe away the tear of anguish, and comfort the afflicted, make the widow's heart sing for joy, practise every social virtue, and become a blessing to society? I look to you as the persons who are to stand up in their stead. I think you are ready to exclaim, in the simplicity and integrity of your hearts, we will do all these things! I pray God you may, and that you may exceed those who have gone before you in every thing that is amiable and useful. This, however, will much depend on the improvement you make now, in the days of your youth.

" Permit me to lead you to the consideration of the relations you may be called to sustain, and of the important part you may be called to act in society, in the future part of your lives. Let it be deeply impressed on your minds, that God hath made you and placed you in the world for some important purpose; that you were not born merely to gratify your appetites and passions for a few years, and then to die and be for ever forgotten; that God hath made you more excellent than the beasts of the field, that he hath formed you for immortality, that he hath placed you in the present state to fit you for a more perfect and glorious existence in the world to come; that he hath given you all your bodily members and mental faculties that you might serve your generation, in particular, that

you might be a blessing to those among whom you live, your relatives, friends, acquaintance, and neighbours. You will answer the end of your existence in the present state by filling up every relation and performing every duty in the best manner you can. Always remember your personal happiness is inseparably connected with the steady and careful performance of your duty both to God and man.

" Months and years quickly roll away : the time will soon come when you will be called to act as members of the great society of mankind. You are to consider yourselves as related to the whole human race. All are creatures of the same God, his rational offspring : he hath made them of one blood and endowed them with kindred feelings, that they might be united together by mutual sympathy and affection. All the people of the world are descended from the same original parents, and make but one great family, though divided into numerous branches and scattered over the face of the earth. Whenever you see a human being you should remember you see a brother, a creature made of the same flesh and blood, capable of the same feelings, made essentially like yourselves, though different in some circumstances ; one whom you ought to love and to whom you ought to do all the good in your power. It should be the employment of your youth to acquire that knowledge of God and man, and all those feelings and virtues, which may qualify you to act your parts right, as members of the great community of mankind, so as to be a blessing to your species.

" Though you do well to remember that all men are your brethren, you will feel yourselves more immediately connected with the nation in which you live, and more particularly still with the people of the neighbourhood in which you reside. With the latter you will have frequent intercourse in the affairs of life ; towards them you will have to perform many important duties : as they will be more immediately within the sphere of your observation, influence, and action, in the promotion of their welfare you will be called more particularly to engage ; to assist them by your counsels, to comfort them when in afflict-

tion, to use every means in your power to promote their improvement, to teach them by your example, and, in every possible way, to add to their happiness.

" Besides the above general duties, you will have many particular offices of friendship to perform to your most intimate associates and peculiar friends. Friendship, founded on virtuous principles, is one of the choicest blessings of life : it blunts the stings of adversity, affords consolation in trouble, helps to ease the heart when filled with anguish, it gives a peculiar relish to all our pleasures, and stirs up the mind to benevolent exertions for the good of others ; but real friendship cannot be kept alive without the exercise of mutual affection and mutual good offices : he who would have friends must shew himself friendly. Refined friendship requires elevated sentiments, delicate feelings, sympathy of heart, and generous behaviour. It is now in the days of your youth you must pursue these amiable qualities, if you would make much progress in the cultivation and exercise of them.

" You may also be called to act in some of the most important domestic relations, each of which has its peculiar duties, and is intended to be of benefit to others. You may become parents ; then it will be your duty, not only to take care of and provide for your children, but also to instruct them, to guide them, in the paths of wisdom, to cultivate their minds with virtuous sentiments, and to lay the foundation of their becoming useful characters. How are you to be prepared for this arduous and important work, unless it be your study, now in early life, to have your own minds enriched with knowledge, and formed to every virtuous disposition and practice ? You never can communicate to others that knowledge which you do not possess, nor cultivate with success those virtues which you do not feel and practise. You may have servants under your care ; it will likewise be your duty to promote their improvement and happiness. Your domestic happiness will, in every respect, much depend on your acting with wisdom and propriety in all the relations of life. A cultivated understanding, a pious heart, virtuous ha-

bits, and liberality of conduct, are the ingredients of which happiness is compounded; the more diligent you are in the pursuit of these things in early life the greater will be your reasonable prospect of happiness.

" God hath formed you capable of acquiring a knowledge of the most important subjects, of attaining the most exalted virtues, and of enjoying that happiness which is to be found only in the paths of knowledge and virtue. He hath opened before you all the sources of information, furnished you with the means of being virtuous, and placed happiness within your reach. Let it ever be impressed on your minds, that if you be not wise, virtuous, and happy, the fault will be your own. Unless your minds be well informed on moral and religious subjects, you will be in danger of stumbling into the paths of error, of becoming either the dupes of superstition or the slaves of vice; you will, at best, be like men walking in the dark, without knowing whither they are going; but if you be well informed, you will see the path of duty plain before you, and the light of truth will teach you how to regulate all your steps. Without virtue you never can be happy. A consciousness of acting wrong will destroy all real and solid enjoyment. Without steady principles of virtue you will not be able to resist the allurements of vice and stand firm against the provocations to evil to which you will be exposed. Those principles are always the most steady which are founded on real knowledge and formed early in life.

" In the lectures which I propose delivering, my intention is to place before you, in as plain a manner as possible, some leading points in religion and morality, the knowledge of which is of the greatest importance, being calculated to inspire you with virtuous and benevolent sentiments, to support you under the trials and afflictions of this mortal state, to prepare you to do the will of God on earth, and so to fit you for a happy immortality." p. 52.

**XCV. An Historical Sketch of the
Life of Silas Talbot, esq., of the**

state of Rhode-Island, late Commander of the United States' Frigate, the Constitution, and of an American Squadron in the West Indies. 12mo. 150 pages. 3s. Ostell.

THIS well told biographical narrative is marked by variety of adventure, and interests the attention; it is meant as "an example, in which the reader will find a courage and perseverance worthy of his imitation." Mr. Talbot, who is an American, distinguished himself in the war between us and America, in a remarkable manner; he was, however, at length taken prisoner; his sufferings from that time till his liberation in England are thus detailed.

" Captain Talbot was so fortunate as to be removed from the Jersey to the Provost, now the gaol of the city of New York, before he experienced any sickness. Here he was locked up in a small room with thirty other prisoners; but this situation, though very unpleasant, and more unpleasant because under the direction of the infamous Cunningham, was a palace, compared with the Jersey prison-ship. This dog in office, Cunningham, when Capt. Talbot and his unfortunate companions entered the prison and gave in their names, abused and insulted them with the most indecent language. 'Yes, I know your family well; your mother (or sister) has been my whore many a good time,' he would say to one; to another, 'was not your brother in the rebel army? ay, I thought as much; the d—d Yankee was hung as a spy a few days since.' &c. &c.

" The barbarous manners of these subaltern appendages of the war frequently occasioned fatal disturbances. The prisoners confined on board the Strombolo prison-ship, anchored in the North river, having been irritated by their ill treatment to ride one night on the guard, the commander being on shore, several, in attempting to escape, were either killed or wounded. The captain got on board just as the fray was quelled, when a poor fellow, lying on deck, bleeding, and almost exhausted by a mortal wound, called him by name, and begged of him, 'for God's sake, a little water, for he was dying!' The captain applied a light to his face, and directly ex-

claimed, 'what is it you, d—n you? I'm glad you're shot! if I knew the man that shot you, I'd give him a guinea! take that, you d—d rebel rascal!' and instantly dashed his foot in the face of the dying man!!

"At the end of about three weeks, capt. Talbot, with seventy-one other officers of various grades, selected from different prisons, but all seamen of the first rate, were marched early one morning, under a guard, from the Provost to the water side, whence they were carried and put on board the Yarmouth, an old ship of sixty-four guns, commanded by captain, now admiral, Lutwidge, which was ready to sail for Europe. It was in the month of November 1780. The morning, as well as the whole of the day, was very cold, with frequent snow and hail. Many of the prisoners had lost great part of their clothes when they were captured, and from long confinement were in a miserable plight. They were nevertheless all kept together on the poop-deck till night, without either victuals or drink, in consequence of which many were ready to perish with hunger and cold. At night, they were all ordered down into a place that had been expressly prepared for them in the hold, under the after orlop-deck. The floor of this place was loose boards and planks, laid over casks of old and decayed provisions: it was extended across the hold from side to side, was about sixteen feet wide, and the deck over it so very low, they were obliged to kneel or sit down in order that they might hold up their heads. They had no light nor air, but what came down the scuttle, and that was so small as to admit of but one prisoner at a time to ascend or descend. When they were all down, they found their dungeon so small, that they were obliged to lie partly one upon another. This Black-Hole was so contracted, and so far below the surface of the water, that notwithstanding the cold on deck, they were soon obliged to throw off all their clothes here, and this was succeeded by a profuse perspiration. Their situation, in a few hours, became most dismal and distressing. Long before morning arrived, the cry of 'water! for God's sake, water!' was become general, but none was offered them, nor any notice taken of their cries, until about the middle of the next day, when a round bottle full, at the end of a line, was let down to them from the scuttle, at the sight of which, every prisoner, impelled by the pain of intolerable thirst, exerted himself to the utmost to lay hold of it; and he who got hold of it could scarce touch it with his lips, before it was violently snatched away by others; there is no friendship among men in extreme distress. In this ravenous manner was the scramble kept up, till every drop was expended, and then the cry of 'water! water!' was again renewed, and the same distressing scene of delirious violence and impatience repeated whenever a bottle was passed down to them. Permission was given in the afternoon for one prisoner at a time to come up from their dungeon, for the purpose of going to the head of the ship; but as he who was so happy as to be up would make his visit as long as possible, on account of the fresh air, and it being a matter of indifference to the sentinel whether he continued longer than necessary, but a part of their unhappy number could gain the upper deck in the course of a whole day, consequently many were compelled to do the indispensable offices of nature in the place of their confinement. This, in a few days, produced the most abominable stench that can be imagined. Captain Smedley, one of the prisoners, prevailed on a sergeant of marines to furnish him with paper, pen, and ink, and he wrote a petition to capt. Lutwidge, stating their distressed situation, and begging they might have at least a wind-sail, to supply them with fresh air. The petition was delivered, and in a few hours capt. Smedley was ordered into the great cabin, when the following dialogue took place.

"Well, sir, what is it you want? an additional allowance?"

"No, sir, we do not want food, but air. We cannot eat the half of what is given to us, because we are sick for want of air. If you, sir, would but favour us with a wind-sail, by which we might obtain more fresh air, we shall be ever obliged to you."

"Do you, rebels, treat those you make prisoners better?"

"Yes, sir, I have captured a considerable number of Englishmen—

several respectable officers—and it was always my object to treat soldiers and seamen as prisoners of war, and to make the captivity of the officers as easy as possible.'

" ' But we don't consider you and your companions as Prisoners of War, but as rebels and traitors to your king and country! and admiral sir G. B. Rodney has himself given orders how you are to be treated, and we cannot depart from them. Go away! '

" Lieutenant Tireman, the second officer on board, having the principal direction of the ship, seemed indifferent about the fate of these unfortunate men, or rather disposed to make their captivity, while on board the Yarmouth, as bitter as possible. The more they suffered, the more those sufferings were contrived to be aggravated. In a short time, this inhuman treatment produced among the prisoners what might be expected, a malignant fever. Those who sickened were, the third day generally, seized with delirium, and expired, raving and exhausted, by the fifth. ' They are rebels, let them suffer! ' was the only answer they could, for a long time, get to their petitions. Seventeen of these unhappy men, the victims of despotic power and deliberate cruelty, breathed their last in this deplorable situation, and were entombed in the deep. The survivors, finding no redress for their complaints, expecting every day to follow their dead companions, and fearing nothing worse than what they had for some time daily experienced, out of despair and rage, abused such of the officers of the ship as came within the sound of their voices, with the most provoking language they could invent; in return for which abuse, the under officers that were birth'd in the orlope would, in contempt, sing ' Yankee Doodle,' and as that deck is never caulked, but the seams left open, they discharged their urine and hot water through them, on the prisoners beneath. At length the air of this dungeon became so extremely foul and infectious, that some of the ship's company were seized with the same fever that prevailed among the prisoners. At the end of three weeks, one of the lieutenants of the Yarmouth, that went down into their dismal mansion, with

the carpenter, to stop a leak, caught the fever and died, as did several of the centinels posted over the scuttle. These circumstances alarmed the whole crew; and the surgeon reported to the captain, ' that unless the American prisoners were speedily removed, and their place of confinement cleansed and sweetened, he should not be surprised if the fever, in the course of a few days, spread through the ship and carried off a great part of her hands.' Fear will make wolves relent. Lieut. Tireman, in consequence of this report, ordered all the prisoners on the upper gun-deck, but a great part of them were by this time so far reduced, as not to be able to get up without assistance. A party was then ordered to haul them up, and they were laid upon the bare deck, till hammocks, for their reception, were slung under the forecastle, on each side of the gallery, and directly over the hog-pens! Into these hammocks, which were hung so low as but just to clear the backs of the hogs, the most sick and feeble of the prisoners were conveyed. Thus, to vary, and not lessen, their sufferings, were these unfortunate men taken out of a close and hot dungeon, where they had been reduced by heat and sickness, and hung in hammocks in the open air, in a winter passage, in the month of December, over a crowd of growling hogs, under the forecastle of a ship of sixty-four guns, without other warmth than their scanty bedding, and the smoke and steams of the galley, in which they were almost constantly envelopped! While these hitherto unheard-of accommodations were preparing for the sick, another party was employed to burn kettles of tar, sulphur, and tobacco, in the place where they had been confined; and in the evening, all the prisoners that were able were ordered down again into their old birth, but for the remainder of the passage they were permitted, whenever they chose, to come on the gun deck, in the day-time, and to stay or return, as they pleased, till night came on. The Yarmouth, it has been observed, was an old ship: she leaked so much, that it was necessary to keep her pumps continually going." p. 139.

(To be concluded in our next.)

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